



NORTHERN NEW MEXICO COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS MINUTES SEPTEMBER 22, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents of northern New Mexico College was held on Friday, September 22, 2023, Via Zoom in the Board Room of Northern New Mexico College, Espanola. Regents Present in person and Viz Zoom: Michael A. Martin, Porter Swentzell, Casandra Batista Dauz, Regent Archuleta and Regent Velarde.

Northern New Mexico College Staff Present: President Hector Balderas, JD, CFE, Ivan Lopez Hurtado, PhD, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs, Theresa Storey, Chief Financial Officer/Compliance Officer, Denise Montoya, Chief of Staff and Vice President for Finance, Matthew Baca, General Counsel, Scott Stokes, Chief Information Officer, Rishi Poudal, Institutional Research Assistant, Sally Martinez, Executive Assistant to the Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs, Sandy Krolick, Creative Director, Communications & Marketing, Deborah Trujillo, IT, Evette Abeyta, Budget Director, Courtney Bruch, Director of Assessment and Accreditation, Patrice Trujillo, Health and Safety Manager, Carmella Sanchez, Director, Institutional Research, Judith Pepper, Major Gifts Officer, Juan Gallegos, IT, Kristy Alton, Title V Project Director, Julianna Barbee, SBDC, Janice Baca, Registrar, Cindy Martinez, Human Resources Admin/HR Tech, Maria Cedillo, IT, and Amy Peña, Executive Office Director.

Faculty Present: Scott Braley, Sandra Rodriguez

Others Present: Barbara Campbell, Myra Martinez, Angie Krall, Leo Valdez, Marvy McCauly, Jake Arnold, Abraham Baca, Toby Velasquez, Ann-Marie Draeger, Joseph Bisagna, Anthony Casados, Dolores Gurule, Antonette Serrano, Barbara Medina, John Ussery, Melinda DeHerrera, and Joseph Padilla.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Martin called the meeting to order at 9:04AM

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board President Martin stated there will be one change to the agenda. There will not be a student senate report this month. It will be given at the next Board meeting for both months. Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the agenda.

Regent Batista Dauz moved to approve the agenda as amended. Second Regent Swentzell. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin – yes, Regent Velarde – yes, Regent Swentzell – yes, Regent Archuleta – yes, Regent Batista Dauz – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

None.

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

A. Board of Regents Subcommittee Reports

1. Grace Martinez, SMSI, Athletic Donation

Board President Martin recognized one of our best benefactors, Grace Martinez. Ms. Martinez joined us last year and gave us a generous donation for the men's team and this year she is here with a donation for both the men's and women's team. Board President Martin thanked Ms. Martinez and gave the Board of Regents a chance to thank her. We will then have a presentation after the Board and the President get done. Regent Velarde stated that is so amazing and generous. Thank you very much for supporting our kids, our community and the sports that are bringing newcomers to our community as well. Thank you for your support and generosity, it is really appreciated. Regent Swentzell stated he would like to echo Regent Velarde's thanks and a small regional college like Northern, it is really a challenge to have that kind of athletic program and their travel and everything involved with it. It is because of donations like Ms. Martinez that allow Northern to be out there and have those dinners. Regent Archuleta stated being a person that is involved in athletics it is really nice when you get a donation, anything helps and again it is for the kids and anything to help them prosper is greatly appreciated. Regent Bautista thanked Ms. Martinez for the donation and stated as a student she knows how much athletics is important to us. It gives us an opportunity to get together with our classmates, our community, an opportunity to play, to get to know each other and to support Northern. It is just amazing. Thank you.

President Balderas stated he would like to present Ms. Martinez with our new SWAG on behalf of the athletic team. He knows the Athletic Director would like to thank her at a later date with probably more SWAG. He visited both the women's practice yesterday evening and the men's practiced until 10:00PM at night. These students are going to class and also have the rigorous practice schedule. President Balderas stated he knows Ms. Martinez and her husband support the teams a lot and he is excited about this year. The men are dunking all over the place and we went from four young ladies to seventeen young ladies. He looks forward to hosting a lot of our community and Ms. Martinez is one of our biggest supporters.

2. Housing Committee

Regent Archuleta stated today after the meeting there is a meeting with President Balderas and Leo Valdez to discuss the financial options. On November 13th President Balderas and Regent Archuleta will do a tour of San Juan College Dorms. They recently build some dorms and they are going to see the pros and cons and what went well and didn't go well. They are moving forward now.

3. Audit, Finance, Facilities Committee

Regent Velarde stated they had a good meeting yesterday and a lot to go over today. Thank you to the team for the work they are doing, especially when it comes to the budget and the different hoops they are going through. We will hear more later on.

4. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Regent Swentzell stated they had a meeting on the 20th and reviewed a draft of the climate survey that will be going out a little bit later and got an update on the status of the Associate Degree of Integrated Studies and the response from NMHED. The Enrollment Report will be covered by the Provost and the great news about enrollment.

5. Board Assessment Committee

Matt Baca, General Counsel stated they got access to AGB's survey assessment tool and the data platform for analytics. They will get the survey out today and the Regents should be on the lookout for the survey and they will meet after that and the Regents give input and come up with a plan to present to the Board of Regents.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board President Martin entertained a motion to approve the minutes of August 25, 2023

Regent Batista Daux moved to approve the minutes. Second – Regent Velarde. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin – yes, Regent Velarde – yes, Regent Swentzell – yes, Regent Archuleta – did not respond, Regent Batista Daux – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Celebrate Northern

President Balderas congratulated Northern and the entire community. We recently experienced a 12% increase in enrollment this fall, which was four times the number of some of the larger state institutions. Fall enrollment is at 1229 students and 772 Full Time Equivalent. The increased enrollment shows that Northern is the college of choice for a growing number of students, here and across the state. One of Secretary of Education's concern was some of the downward trends in terms of enrollment in Northern because Northern is so dependent on student growth so for this to go in complete opposite direction. President Balderas stated he has a chip on his shoulder because he thinks we are also competing for resources with other small and large institutions. Just when you thought when this was amazing news, we also saw a 32% increase in our Department of Education, and our Department of Nursing and Health Sciences, we had a 9% increase. This increased enrollment really shows that there are a lot of good people behind this effort and really excited about this trend. Not only does this give us a little bit of a fiscal bump or cushion but it also strengthens the argument that we should be having increased investment in our capital outlay and our other investments that we are requesting funding. This is great and congratulations to all that were involved.

Nursing & Health Sciences is celebrating an additional win. For the first time ever, our Spring 2023 graduates had a 100-percent pass rate of the NCLEX-RN licensure exam on their first try. Several of those graduates have already been offered jobs in the local healthcare industry, including three employed by Presbyterian Española Hospital.

Congratulations to the new members of Northern's Student Senate. They are President Dolores Gurulé, Vice President Cristian Olivas, Secretary Jasie Green, Treasurer Kimberly Nartea, Reporter Annai Valdivia and senators Alexis Blacketer, Rebecca Chavez, Sofia Rodriguez, Natalia Tealer and America Lucero. President Gurulé is working to fill the Sentinel position.

Our Chair of Teacher Education, Sandra J. Rodriguez, participated on a panel for Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's Literacy Summit on September 6, where the Governor announced plans to request \$30 million from the Legislature construct a literacy institute. Acting Higher Education Secretary Dr. Patricia Trujillo, legislators, administrators, educators, advocates and tribal leaders attended the event.

Dr. Robert Beshara organized "Radical Humanism," an international two-day conference which took place on September 8 and 9 at the Santa Fe Community Convention Center. The conference was sponsored by Northern's Title V.

We want to congratulate Dr. Rhiannon West, who received the Outstanding Investigator at the Western Regional IDeA Conference 2023 for her work in the biomedical sciences supported by the NM INBRE grant. Out of at least a dozen investigators, only two awards were given for faculty funded by NM-INBRE, and Dr. West was one recipient. Great work also by our students, Dominick Martinez, Jade Madrid, and Jazmyn Gutierrez, who presented their research posters at this regional conference.

Kudos to NNMC film professor David Lindblom, whose film "One in 7" won Best Documentary at the Madrid Film Festival. Northern student Samantha Herrera served as assistant field producer for "One in 7." The film also won the "Film Heals" award at the Manhattan Film Festival last summer.

*Links to "One in 7" and David's other Healing Voices videos at <https://hv-ps.org/>.
Link to NNMC article on "One in 7" and the Healing Voices film series at <https://nnmc.edu/nnmc-associate-professor-david-lindblom-film-will-screen-at-the-manhattan-film-festival/>.*

We are #NorthernProud of our film students who just won the Best Music Video award from the New Mexico Film Foundation for "Our Day Will Come." This was a multi-camera group project of several FDMA classes: TV Production; Editing; and Digital Production. The students teamed up to produce, film and edit the 3:00 minute video, serving as camera operators and assistants for four camera positions, TV director, floor director, production assistants and lighting designers.

Link to video:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Gob987J5O19cflSclKko3kgtHioRtDKF/view?usp=share_link

The National Latino Behavioral Health Association's Connecting Our Voices held their premiere of their Summer Youth Interns' 2023 Public Service Announcement and roundtable at Northern New Mexico College Center last week. One hundred seventh graders from Carlos Vigil Middle School were in attendance. We gave them a tour of the college and Department Chairs Sushmita

Nandy and Ellen Trabka told them about our biology and nursing programs, and Harry Gantz talked about our film program.

We had lunches to celebrate our female and male athletes this past month. I was great to visit with the athletes and get to know them.

Student Life celebrated Constitution Day on Monday with Constitution Day Trivia Contest and voter registration. Thanks to Student Life for encouraging civic engagement.

B. CUP/NMICC Report

President Balderas stated regarding CUP, we recently participated in the CUP Summer Planning Retreat end of August with CUP Presidents to discuss the upcoming GO Bond, higher education comprehensive funding study and funding formula updates, university funding in general. The Department of Finance and Administration, the Higher Education Department, and the Legislative Finance Committee provided updates as well. Topics also included Campus Safety, a Global Study, Student Success Services: Barriers and Pathways, and a cybersecurity and broad band update. Legislators spoke with the Presidents to discuss challenges and solutions to higher education focused on literacy efforts statewide and the need to better prepare the workforce through higher education and increasing student enrollment, retention, and graduation.

if the GO Bond is coming up in November and is there some of that funding coming to us. President Balderas stated yes and the primary gear of us coming up with a statewide campaign plan so that we educate all the voters in the particular regions and so all the universities and colleges have an important value. There was a presentation on this. We are concerned because the leaders who used to lead the GO Bond Campaigns there is transition. There are a lot of new faces and that might cause particular less effectiveness. Regent Velarde stated Dr. Burke was a champion for the GO Bond and he did it all on his own time and his own time and he was amazing and he has retired since. President Balderas stated there was a lot of concern and Dr. Burke's support staff is older and they want to retire as well. Board President Martin asked if there will be a ballot issue asking people to approve that funding for that. President Balderas stated yes and they are supposed to release that and polling looks good with the general public. They generally support those programs. They talked about wanting us to do a little bit of local awareness campaigning. President Balderas will get on the radio to do some interviews.

President Balderas presented the following report for NMICC:

- 1) Launch Years Math Pathways
 - i) This effort is to connect middle and high school to higher education to align math to better prepare students for higher education. A statewide core team is being developed to implement new curriculum and new standards that leads to high quality math education. The team will attend a conference in Las Vegas, NV, with the other states included Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, and Southern California to learn more. This is a multiyear project.
- 2) Western Governor's University Transfer Agreements
 - i) Western Governor's University is seeking opportunities for community colleges to partner with them to develop additional transfer agreements between Western Governor's University.

3) Opportunities Scholarship Funding

- i) Marc Saavedra and Vanessa Hawker are in conversations with LFC, HED, and others to address the challenge that higher education is not front funded for the students on the Opportunities Scholarship program. Currently, payments are not funded until November for Fall semester and April or May for the Spring semester. HED is considering advancing the higher education institutions 25% of the estimated Opportunities Scholarship for each higher education institution. The confirmation that this change will occur is pending. This decision forthcoming will help improve cash flow for Northern New Mexico College.

C. NNMC Foundation

President Balderas recognized Judith Pepper and has convinced her to stay on. Judith, President Balderas and colleagues will be launching a strategic plan for fundraising to see what some of the highlights are of Northern that President Balderas can begin to target for more aggressive larger fundraising. She has agreed to stay on to complete that project and us construct a roadmap for that.

President Balderas presented the following:

1. FY24 Northern Scholarship Campaign

Goal: \$60,000

Donations received to date: \$48,825.00

Pending Pledges:

- a. Arizona Educational Foundation - \$2000
- b. Community donations - \$10,000
- c. Northrop Grumman Foundation - \$2500

2. In kind Donations

- a. Estate of David Mitchell – Wood Working Equipment valued at \$7,785.00 to Technical Trades Woodworking program.
- b. Mrs. Betty Shaw – Graphics Equipment valued at \$500.00 to the Integrated Studies: Art Department of Arts & Human Sciences.

D. Introduction of Staff and Faculty

President Balderas stated have no new employees to introduce this month, but I want to congratulate Cindy Gallegos for her promotion to Integrated Education and Training Faculty/Coordinator with our Continuing Education Department. She previously worked as an instructor for Adult Education but will now collaborate with Cecilia Romero to expand Continuing Ed opportunities.

President Balderas also thanked Ambrosia Tuero for serving as Interim Director of Student Success and Advisement.

E. College Updates

President Balderas stated the purpose of this report is to provide an update on behalf of his team that aligns with the Soaring to New Heights Strategic Plan 2028 strategic pillars (SP). While this report is only an updated summary, this is not a final exhaustive list of all initiatives this team is undertaking.

SP1: Transform the student experience and become partners in their dreams.

Northern New Mexico College is renewing its partnership with ENLACE, Santa Fe Community College, and New Mexico Highlands University to recruit high school students in the region to participate in a leadership development program. The legislator has funded this initiative for this fiscal year (non-recurring funds).

Grace Martinez, SMSI, donated \$3,000 toward the athletic program.

SP2: Commit to academic excellence.

NNMC participated in the second meeting of ECHO Project (co-requisite model). As part of this effort, NNMC is a member of a selected cohort of four Higher Ed NM institutions that will deploy to scale the co-requisite model by Fall 2024. Because of this effort NNMC has been invited to apply for the Complete College America Photo Library.

SP3: Commit to organization excellence.

Finalizing the creation of a facilities infrastructure and campus beautification committee (faculty, staff, student, and community representation); to serve as an information and exchange body on facilities projects that are under construction or that are being planned. Capital outlay updates include several improvements ongoing while plan is being developed; one stop shop - first phase of flooring, paint, and minor construction underway, commercial kitchen and Cafe almost completed; have addressed several legacy HVAC issues; roof leaks causing internal damage; roof work to begin end of September; speed bumps painted in El Rito; scoreboard, score table, and shot clocks installed in the gym for the athletic program; gravel work continues on the Espanola campus).

SP4: Strengthen strategic College partnerships that enhance student success.

Finalized a memorandum of understanding between the College and the Entrepreneurial Institute of Northern New Mexico (EINNM) to collaborate with celebrity Chef Fernando Ruiz and EINNM to enhance the Hospitality and Restaurant Management program through initiatives such as serving on the advisory board, providing feedback into the curriculum, serving as a guest lecture and speaker, and providing mentorship,

VII. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT REPORT

Scott Braley stated they had their first meeting. Professor David Lindblom was elected as Vice President. He may be coming to this meeting schedule dependent. They did some preliminary work on some different issues which will play out over the next few months. They are working on committees and bylaws which are out of date and missing procedures which can be fixed. Mr. Braley stated there is a lot of engagement right now. He has been in the Senate for four years and people are really engaged more than the last few years and the Board of Regents will be hearing from them.

VIII. STUDENT SENATE PRESIDENT REPORT

None.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

1. Enrollment Report

Dr. Lopez presented updates with more details to what President Balderas mentioned. Dr. Lopez reviewed the enrollment report which is reviewed twice per semester (attached). Teacher education is the second largest program at the college right now. Five years ago, it was decreasing at the rate of 20% per year. Dr. Rodriguez came and changed this program. It grew 32% from last year. Dr. Lopez stated the report shows technical trades is 3% of enrollment. Trades are growing tremendously with the local unions. When the apprentices come, they register as undeclared students. They declare at the moment when they tell us they want to get the certificate or associate degree. Many of the students want to get college credit. If you add all the students, we have 274 taking technical trades classes. That is an opportunity for growth. This is the area where we can really grow and the jobs are needed by the State, the lab and local businesses. President Balderas and Dr. Lopez met with the Carpenters Union and within a year to a year and a half they can have a carpenter's program. The two programs that are fully online and an eight-week schedule are Teacher Education and Business have grown the most. Dr. Lopez has been working with other departments to push this schedule since we are serving a lot of non-traditional students. Dr. Lopez asked the Board if they had any questions.

Board President Martin asked if the online students are from our service area or are we drawing students from other areas. Dr. Lopez stated on table 24 there is information and it will show where the students are coming from. Most of them 78% are coming from Espanola and 13.6% from Albuquerque which is really the Local 412 students. We did not break this data but Dr. Lopez can get this information for the Board of Regents. Page 39 will show students by zip code where the students are located and if you go to graph three it shows 451 students online and we will have to break that one down. The reality is that we are still probably 98% in-state students. Dr. Lopez will bring the data to the Board of Regents. Board President Martin asked if we are doing advertising outside the state for online courses. Dr. Lopez stated there is a little bit but not strategic. This is something the President has been concerned with because that is the opportunity for us. These programs, Teacher Education and Business can grow because they are affordable, accredited and the Board of Regents passed the tuition rate which is highly competitive for students. Dr. Rodriguez

was ready to enroll 120 students from Texas but at the last minute the partnership was not approved. We need to do more marketing for out of state.

President Balderas stated from the facilities planning and beautification that we are working with faculty senate. We are doing the same when aligning our fundraising and strategic marketing plan. We are working with communications to re-vamp and re-write a targeted communications plan. By the end of December, he is waiting for final approval of the strategic plan. All of these will align and he hopes to maximize efficiencies and come up with a communication strategy to boost enrollment and build it around four or five areas that are sustaining growth. We are working on a structure and budget analysis to work on enrollment growth, savings in cost. Once we find money, we want to make sure we have a targeted plan. Families are getting to know us. We are well known here but just on the other side of the mountain. With social media there are advantage that won't take a lot of money but will take a targeted plan. The communications and marketing will come in the fall. The strategic plan, once faculty senate approves, he is excited for the kind of refacing of northern and telling our stories, it will result in an enrollment bump. President Martin asked about the relationship with Mesalands. President Balderas stated we are working with education credits and transferring. We are also evaluating other college budgets to see how they are spending their money on budgets. We also have a more unique brand because of non-traditional students. President Balderas also visited with UNM-LA to make sure there are alignments.

Regents Swentzell stated he is always fascinated with this plan. In looking at graph three about 85% of the students come within 30 miles. There is about 15% further away. Looking at expanding out to the online education world and seeing where else students come from. Regent Swentzell also appreciates the op ed the President wrote in the Sun to highlight the increase in enrollment. Part of the unique brand is to think about the massive jump in education students. There are so many jobs right here to stay in the community and build an economic engine and look at the Governors increase in pay and those are individuals who will get a much better job than they could have and they will be buying from the stores and paying taxes here. There are students we can tap into but Northern can be transformative on this level especially in the trades. There is such desperate need for the trades right here as well. It is not either or but yes and story. He doesn't take that 85% of our students come from within 30 miles as a negative but is also part of the story highlighting the transformative story of Northern.

President Balderas stated a perfect example of this is yesterday we hosted FAA officials from all over the country and leaders in our art program Johanna and David came to him early in his administration regarding drones. There are a lot of wins. There is a drodeo going on tomorrow to see different competition of drones flying in the parking lot. NM Tech had to bring their program here to feature their drones. Northern can flex a little bit with the big boys in technology. We are under invested in career and job development. We would like to beef up and Dr. Lopez put together a proposal for over \$1M job development opportunities for students in the region. There is low hanging fruit in the 85% as well. Everybody wants job development but very little goes to the colleges who are preparing students for those jobs.

Regent Archuleta – no comment.

Regent Batista Daus – no comment.

2. Trades & El Rito Enrollment Report from 2020 to 2023

Per the Board's request and it came from public input. Dr. Lopez wanted to make it clear this document is for El Rito Campus (attached). Dr. Lopez reviewed the document for the Board of Regents. Regent Velarde asked if we have any other partners who want in person classes. Dr. Lopez stated all of them have expressed formally or informally the desire to grow this area. The reason it hasn't happened is first we need to identify the space; the lab has to be built and it has to be a collaboration with us and the high school. Second, the availability of instructors. Right now, these four instructors in the technical trades are traveling to all the sites and teaching the courses. These are the courses we cannot teach online. These instructors are hard to get. The fields are making six-digit salaries. It is hard to recruit instructors. We haven't figured it out yet how we are going to do this with limitations of instructors.

Board President Martin asked if there were questions from the Board of Regents. No questions from the Board.

B. Vice President for Finance & Administration

1. FY23 Unaudited Report of Actuals

Theresa Storey, Chief Financial Officer reported on the report of actuals (attached). She would like to recognize Evette Abeyta and Stephanie Lovato on this report. This document was submitted to HED on September 15th, the due date. The report is demonstrative of the effort that goes into the effort of preparing this report.

Board President Martin asked if there were any questions from the Board of Regents.

Regent Velarde – no questions. This is why she took one semester of accounting and said no this is not the math she likes.

X. DEEP DIVE

A. Reading Initiatives in Teacher Education – Dr. Sandra Rodriguez

Board President Martin stated Regent Velarde and he were called to a meeting at the Governor's Office back in September with Regents from NMHU, Eastern, Western, NM Tech, UNM and NMSU and she was briefing them on her new initiative in Teacher Education so he asked Dr. Rodriguez to come and educate us and the Governor is very excited about the science of reading and wants it taught at all the college and Board President Martin asked Dr. Rodriguez if she could educate us. Dr. Rodriguez presented the Reading Initiatives in Teacher Education.

Board President Martin asked Regent Velarde's thoughts of the meeting with the Governor. Regent Velarde stated her thoughts were supportive, the Governor shared a personal story. She didn't realize things were the way they were until it hit her at home with her grandchild. Being able to see how a particular way of teaching isn't working and realizing at some point when you are not in the schools every day, you tend to forget people are driving different things that are changing in the classroom so our teachers are in alignment and things coming down from the federal government. Her daughter had a similar experience with her reading and she didn't realize they are not teaching phonics anymore. When she was having a hard time, she went to the schools and

it is hoops for your daughter to be evaluated and the teacher has to fill out so much paperwork to get your child tested. If there is not enough of a deficiency a parent does not know what to do. Regent Velarde bought hooked on phonics to be able to help her. Having a center of literacy and supporting teachers so they are able to support the students. She knows data is needed but we are putting teachers through hoops every four to eight years. It is hard to put it in a contextual basis to keep up with the constant change. We have also put the stress of being up to date on the tests and having their pay related to the tests. Regent Velarde commended Dr. Rodriguez for giving the students the support they need. Dr. Rodriguez stated the teachers want to do a good job and the compassion they have at the beginning and then they go in and hit roadblocks, it jades them. Nobody wants to fail. We also need to look at the differences in our students. Phonics is a good thing. It works up to a point but if you get students and a lot of our students, another misconception. We have our students who are considered ELL even if they are English only. It is because they do not have and academic English.

Board President Martin another issue raised with the Governor is the issues with the testing area. She is also taking about satellite locations for testing. She didn't share where those would be.

Regent Swentzell stated we might want to look at street data, what is the data on the ground and also, he appreciated Dr. Rodriguez using the word holistic because there are so many factors. The complexity of these issues and it is important to say how much do these things really matter, he appreciated Regent Velarde's comments, it doesn't bother him in any way, but it may freak some other people out but is not reflective of the actual program. It doesn't mean we shouldn't strive to be better in many ways. Also, Regent Swentzell stated get on his soap box, each of our communities has our unique ways of speaking, speaking the English language, vocabularies and he reinforces that those ways of speaking English is not necessarily wrong, but they represent the diversity of our communities and when we flatten that out, it is as if we are wiping away that diversity. Is it wrong to say I am going to put gas, people put gas. It is not textbook English but it is perfectly understandable. Just like we going to get down from the car. Those are local ways of saying that and people around here completely understand what is going on. Is that the proper way you say those things, maybe not, is it English, absolutely. Does it represent this regions history and particular dialect of English. As a school leader, as a lead administrator is to run interference with those agencies that are compliance agencies to protect my teachers so they can do the work that is very important. His job is to run interference and not let too many of those things trickle down to them because they are not relevant to things that need to happen in first or second grade. He realizes his second-grade teacher has 11 or 12 different students, each with their own learning styles and they are having to figure out that not one test is going to tell anything about. In addition, those standardized assessments are testing a sliver of their abilities. We recognize that every student has many gifts that the creators bless them with and yet we are pretending to care only about a small sliver of those gifts. They have so much to contribute to the world. Why doesn't our assessment test reflect the gifts that they bring. As an administrator he has to say hey I don't care about those assessments, they mean nothing to me and he will continuously say keep doing the work that will recognize those gifts that those students bring into this world and your work here is good. Let me answer for these other things. He will have the arguments over here. You do the work you need to do. Regent Swentzell stated this is his soap box and he knows it is not maybe the popular opinion but he is the lead of a dual language school so we need to reify, valorize our Tewa language on the same level as English. When they classify our students as English Language Learners, he said why don't we classify everyone else as Tewa Language Learners. You don't speak Tewa good enough but you are on Tewa land so I don't care about your ELL classification but if it gets us more money you can give it to us.

Regent Archuleta – was out of the meeting.

Regent Batista Dauz – no comment.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XII. POSSIBLE ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

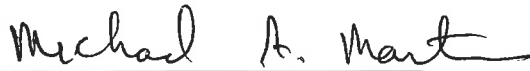
XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Board President Martin entertained a motion to adjourn.

Regent Swentzell moved to adjourn. Second – Regent Velarde. A roll call vote was taken. Board President Martin – yes, Regent Velarde – yes, Regent Swentzell – yes, Regent Archuleta – yes, Regent Bautista Dauz – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board of Regents adjourned at 10:30AM

Approved:



Michael A. Martin
Board President


Erica Rita Velarde (Oct 31, 2023 15:59 MDT)

Erica Velarde
Vice President







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Final Audit Report

2023-10-31

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