

**NMSA All-School Committee Meeting**  
**Final Minutes for May 7, 2011**

**Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 11:04 AM.

**Roll Call** Those attending the meeting who signed in included Jaffa Frank (Secretary), Michele Ortega (Co-Chair), Steve Ediger, Michael Rodriguez, Charlie Galbraith (Business Manager), Laurie De Domenico, Cindy Montoya (Principal), Karima Alavi (Teacher), Julie Zimmer, Jake Cohen, Dave Jansen, Chriss O'Neill, Natalie Gurule, Gilbert Gurule, Lisa Lincoln, Christi Schackel, Marcie Brooks, Nancy Bowman, Gregory Hunt (Board Member), Tamara Lichtenstein, Cathy Weber, Petra Lang O'Brien.

**Approval of Minutes** The minutes for the April 2, 2011 meeting were approved.

**Public Comment** The following items were put forth by meeting participants for consideration.

Formalizing subcommittees  
Confirmation of calculus being offered in the 2011-12 school year  
Cross-discipline arts options  
Ways to welcome and include all new parents, students  
Teleconferencing for the All-School Committee meetings  
Registration procedures for 2011-12 school year  
Scheduling for the 2011-12 school year

**Approval of the Agenda** Because Cindy Montoya, NMSA Principal, and Charlie Galbraith, Business Manager, were present to report on the scheduling, the budget and other items of great interest to all attending, it was suggested that "Reports" be the first item of business. The agenda, with this change, was approved.

**I. Reports**

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**1. Principal's Report: Cindy Montoya** shared that she has an open door policy and welcomes parent input and concerns. She provided the following responses to meeting participant questions.

**Calculus** will be offered for the 2011-12 school year. Starting with the 2013 graduates the State of NM will require 4 credits of math. For this reason, NMSA has already adopted that standard. However, NMSA will need to waive this requirement for some of our juniors (who will be 2012 graduates). They will still need to meet the State requirement of 3 math credits.

**French** will not be offered for now.

**Registration for 2011-12** will consist of a pre-registration meeting with all students during May to help plan for next year. During these meetings student graduation requirements and interests will be assessed so that NMSA can plan the master schedule accordingly. There must be at least

15 students in a class for it to be offered. *The students will receive a course list the last day of school (or possibly earlier) on which they will indicate their 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> choices.* The staff is currently working on being able to offer some cross-discipline arts classes during the morning academic block to serve as electives.

**Next Step Plans** are required by the State of NM for all students and will be part of the planning and pre-registration process during the 2011-12 school year. The plans will be produced, reviewed and signed in January 2012.

**Dual track science** consisting of regular and honors tracks will be taught by all science teachers next year. The tracks will run simultaneously within each classroom.

**IAIA and Santa Fe Community College** dual enrollment is available to students at NMSA. Course lists are online. Contact Cindy Montoya if a student wishes to enroll in a class.

**An Art History elective** will be taught by Dr. Alavi next year. It is required for Visual Arts majors. It will also be available to non-Visual Arts majors (juniors or seniors) as space allows.

A **poetry elective** is a possibility for next year. It would be taught by Dr. Cassell.

**P.E.** will be available both before school (“zero hour”) and during the morning academic block next year. Adam McKinney has begun the long and paperwork-laden process of *trying* to attain a waiver for dance students to use dance classes to fulfill the PE requirement.

**Health** (.5 credit) will be required for 2013 graduates by the State of NM. The staff is currently working on trying to offer a health elective next year.

**Summer reading for all students** will be required. Depending on grade level, 1 or 2 books will be assigned and need to be completed before school begins in August. Parents will need to purchase the book(s). If this is a hardship, they should contact NMSA.

**The proposed 2011-12 Academic Calendar** is available on the website. There will be changes to the block schedule. Appreciation was expressed for the hard work by staff and teachers on the schedule. Cindy Montoya acknowledged that the creation of the schedule is one of the biggest challenges for schools and that they are always “works in progress.”

**Arts blocks** will still occur every day next year. However, they will be shorter on Mondays to accommodate class time for all academic courses to meet as well. Tuesday through Friday the academic classes will meet according to a block schedule except for **Spanish and Math** which will meet every day.

**“Zero Hour”** classes are offered from 8:15-9:10 AM. Any required course offered during Zero Hour must also be offered during regular school hours. The same is *not* true for electives, which can be offered only during Zero Hour.

**Benjamin Klemme**, Chair of the Music Department, will be leaving at the end of this school year to pursue a great opportunity to further his own artistry. Adelma Hnasko shared that the search for a replacement is in full swing and that a new director will be in place by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**2. Budget Report:** Charlie Galbraith, NMSA Business Manager, gave a detailed report about next year's budget. For parents who would like to view the report it was suggested that it be included in an upcoming NMSA newsletter.

**A proposed Arts Fee** of \$1000/student is being suggested in the budget. This would provide \$5/day for student arts training (the actual cost is \$35/day). **Scholarships** will be available and financing options are being considered.

Board Member Gregory Hunt was introduced.

**3. Spring Dance Report:** Cathy Weber shared that Roxanne Seagraves and the Student Council have worked hard to put together a Prom-type dance on Friday, May 27. It will be held at the Santa Fe Country Club (who gave us a great deal) and tickets will be \$25. It is not being called Prom because the Student Council wants to make sure that all NMSA students feel welcome – whether as singles or with dates. All students will need to be in the dance by 8:30 PM and will not be able to re-enter if they leave. Options for overnight accommodations with Santa Fe NMSA families are being explored for out-of-town students. More information will be coming soon.

## **II. Discussion Items**

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**1. Telecommunications for All-School Committee Meetings:** Cindy Montoya and Steve Ediger will work on setting up something simple like a teleconference for future meetings to encourage out-of-town parents to participate.

**2. Formalizing Subcommittees:** Meeting participants signed up for the following subcommittees. Any parents wishing to join any of the committees is encouraged to do so.

- **Fundraising** – Laurie De Domenico, Christi Schackel, Natalie Gurule, Nancy Bowman
- **Communications/Newsletter** – Julie Zimmer, Cathy Weber
- **Tech Support for All-School Committee Meetings** – Steve Ediger, Cathy Weber
- **All-School Committee Mission Statement** – Trina Raper, Christi Schackel
- **“Adopt” a Student/“Get-away” Families** – Nancy Bowman, Petra O’Brien, Chriss O’Neill (parent contact info collection), Jake Cohen
- **Annual Fund Subcommittee** – Christy Heild
- **Student School Events Support** – Cathy Weber, Chriss O’Neill, Jake Cohen, Natalie Gurule
- **Volunteer Coordination** – Chriss O’Neill
- **Library** – Tamara Lichtenstein
- **Grounds Committee** – Steve Marble, Steve Koller, Jake Cohen

- **Legislative Subcommittee** – No need for a standing committee. Parents will be contacted as needed by NMSA staff
- **Student Support (Counseling) and Parent Education Subcommittees** – No leadership stepped forward to head these so they were eliminated for now.

### **III. Action Items**

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None

**Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Jaffa Frank, Secretary*