

## **March 2026 Board Meeting**

*Meeting Location: District Office/Virtual*

*Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2026*

### **Members present**

Colleen Benally, Nan Barton, Ron T Nielson, Don Mose III

### **Members absent**

Lucille Cody

### **Others present**

Superintendent Dr. Christine Fitzgerald, Business Administrator Jacob Swanson, Human Resources Director Laura Palmer, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Derek Begay, Assistant Superintendent Paul Murdock, Jenny Atcitty, Kim Schaefer, Eva Ewald, Jared Brown, Jacob Swanson, Steve Francom, Jeff Fitzgerald, Jonathan English

### **Meeting called to order at 3:05 PM**

## **A. Approval of Agenda**

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### **1. Approve Agenda - 3:00 pm**

#### ***Motion to Approve the Agenda.***

Motion by Don Mose III, second by Colleen Benally.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Colleen Benally, Nan Barton, Ron T Nielson, Don Mose III

## **B. SJ Quest Update**

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### **1. Spotlight Report- Courageous Principals - Dr. Christy Fitzgerald- 3 min**

Superintendent Christy Fitzgerald shared highlights to the recent professional development opportunity, Courageous Principals, Delloite program that several school and district administrators attended at the end of February. She commended the program facilitators for the effective and cost-efficient offering of the valuable training. She noted there will be another administrative group attending in April.

C. Board Discussion Items *(Note, discussion items not discussed before 5PM break will be discussed later in the agenda at the board's discretion)*

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**1. Proposed 2026-27 Fee Waiver & Spend Plans & Policies 6130 Students, Tuition, Fees and Fines & 1145 Relations with the Public and Fundraising and Donations - Discussion- Dr. Derek Begay & Dr. Christy Fitzgerald - 15 min**

State law requires that Spend Plans, applicable policies, and the Fee Schedule be shared in an open meeting at least two times for public review. The Board approved the 2026-2027 Fee Schedule in January.

Schools were provided a checklist for Spend Plans. Monticello High School and Whitehorse High School followed that checklist. The other schools have been informed to complete this checklist to ensure all errors are fixed before next month's Board meeting. (errors include new motel costs, correct school year, etc.).

Plans were reviewed as presented and will be reviewed and considered for action at the April 7 board meeting.

**2. SJSD Policy 5345 Instructional Resources: Artificial Intelligence - Laura Palmer & Jared Brown - 5 min.**

Human Resources Director Laura Palmer and Technology Director Jared Brown presented the first reading of policy 5345 regarding Artificial Intelligence utilization in district technology. The policy outlines definitions, guiding principles, responsible use guidelines, prohibited use guidelines, data privacy and security, academic integrity and oversight and review guidelines.

**3. SJSD Policy 9510 School Safety: Safety Personnel - Laura Palmer - 5 min.**

Human Resources Director Laura Palmer presented Policy 9510 in accordance to the state plan to have well-trained and vetted school safety personnel. State law requires that all schools have armed personnel on-site who maintain a valid concealed carry permit and are trained to respond to school threats. This policy outlines the district's definitions, training requirements, safety personnel roles and responsibilities, as well as the Educator-Protector Program requirements and guidelines.

**4. SJSD Policy 1235 External Research and Data Privacy - Laura Palmer - 5 min.**

Human Resources Director Laura Palmer presented Policy 1235. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for screening and monitoring research projects within the District, while ensuring compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The District aims to facilitate research that improves instruction or has the potential to benefit the educational process, while protecting the privacy of our students. This policy applies to all research and development projects involving district facilities, personnel, or students.

**5. SJSJ Policy 3100 - Financial Administrative Procedures - Jacob Swanson - 5 min.**

Human Resources Director Laura Palmer presented Policy 3100. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for proposing grant opportunities, processes for grant application approval and processes for data collection, in accordance for district guidelines.

**6. Strategic Planning Collateral - Dr. Christy Fitzgerald - 5 min.**

Superintendent Fitzgerald will update and get feedback from the Board on the proposed strategic plan collateral. Feedback was provided for this collateral, and board input will be collected and considered for the next draft.

**7. 2026 Legislative Updates - Dr. Christy Fitzgerald - 10 min**

Superintendent Christine Fitzgerald highlighted the approval of HB75 (QTIP program), noting this assures there will be no changes to the format the district follows currently. She also highlighted the adopting of the Native American and Alaskan Native Outcome based studies. The final bill she highlighted the Early Literacy Bill (SB241) which outlines new proficiency goals, implementation of individualized reading plans, affects student retention, mandated teacher preparation programs, additional funding and support for all requirements and educator evaluations.

A copy of the overall bill tracking for all other bills was included in the public content of the agenda as well.

**8. Blanding Elementary School Update - Jacob Swanson - 5 min.**

Business Administrator, Jacob Swanson, provided a brief update on the progress of the Blanding Elementary School construction project.

**9. Capital Follow-up - Jacob Swanson - 5 min**

Business Administrator, Jacob Swanson, provided updates on the Entryway Projects at Montezuma Creek Elementary and San Juan High School.

**10. Albert R. Lyman Middle School and Monticello High School Entryway Projects - Jacob Swanson - 10 min.**

Business Administrator, Jacob Swanson, will provided updates on bids for the Entryway Projects at Albert R. Lyman Middle School and Monticello High School.

**11. Open and Public Meetings Act Training - Jacob Swanson - 10 min**

Business Administrator, Jacob Swanson, conducted the mandatory annual training for the Open and Public Meetings Act.

## **12. Board Training & Development - President Nan Barton - 8 min.**

Board President Nan Barton shared ideas and a team activity for the board members to participate in. The activity outlines various duties and opportunities for board community presence and participation, as well as training and learning opportunities.

## **D. School/Director - Board Reflection Opportunity 4:00 p.m.**

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### **1. Montezuma Creek Elementary School Report - Jenny Atcitty - 10 min.**

Montezuma Creek Elementary Principal Jenny Atcitty shared Celebrations, Challenges, School Goals and Statistics from the school. She highlighted the efforts school-wide on improving the attendance rates, proficiency in RISE, and Acadience Reading benchmarks.

### **2. Whitehorse High School - Kim Schaefer - 10 min.**

Whitehorse High School Principal Kim Schaefer shared Celebrations, Challenges, School Goals and Statistics from the school. She highlighted the efforts school-wide on increasing student belonging. Ms. Schaefer also shared 90-Day Plan goals and progress.

## **E. Break - @ 5:00 p.m.**

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## **F. Welcome and Recognition of Guests - 6:00 p.m.**

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## **G. SJ-2 Recognition Awards**

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### **1. San Juan Sweet Job Award: Jeanna Grover**

### **2. San Juan Sweet Job Award: *deferred to next month***

## **H. Citizen Comments**

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### **1. Citizens' Comments**

*No Citizens Comments*

## **I. Closed Session *(At Board Discretion, Closed Session may be Moved)***

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### **1. Purchase, exchange or lease of real property**

### **2. Litigation**

### **3. Personnel (6:40 pm – 7:01 pm)**

*Motion to go into Closed Session to discuss Personnel.*

Motion by Colleen Benally, second by Don Mose III.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Colleen Benally, Nan Barton, Ron T Nielson, Don Mose III

### **4. Security**

## **J. Consent Agenda**

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### **1. Minutes**

### **2. Revenue Reports**

### **3. Expenditure Reports**

### **4. School Expenditure Reports**

### **5. Personnel Report(s) and Information**

### **6. Monthly Checks**

### **7. Board Travel Reports**

### **8. Home School Letters of Intent**

### **9. Student Hearings**

### **10. SJSD Revised School Spend Plans**

### **11. Spring 2026 and Winter 2026 Activity Reports and 150 Mile Forms**

### **12. School Land Trust Amendments**

### **13. Approval of all Consent Agenda Items**

*Motion to approve Consent Agenda*

Motion by Ron T Nielson, second by Colleen Benally.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Colleen Benally, Nan Barton, Ron T Nielson, Don Mose III

## K. Possible Action Items

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### **1. SJSD Policy 5345 Instructional Resources: Artificial Intelligence**

*Motion to approve SJSD Policy 5345 Instructional Resources: Artificial Intelligence with Section 5345.5, 1, b. changed to "unauthorized."*

Motion by Colleen Benally, second by Don Mose III.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Colleen Benally, Nan Barton, Ron T Nielson, Don Mose III

### **2. SJSD Policy 9510 School Safety: Safety Personnel**

*Motion to approve SJSD Policy 9510 School Safety: Safety Personnel*

Motion by Ron T Nielson, second by Colleen Benally.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Colleen Benally, Nan Barton, Ron T Nielson, Don Mose III

### **3. SJSD Policy 1235 - External Research and Data Privacy**

*Motion to approve SJSD Policy 1235 External Research and Data Privacy.*

Motion by Don Mose III, second by Ron T Nielson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Colleen Benally, Nan Barton, Ron T Nielson, Don Mose III

### **4. SJSD Policy 3100 - Financial Administrative Procedures**

*No Action.*

### **5. Albert R. Lyman Middle School and Monticello High School Entryway Projects**

*Motion to approve district administration to enter into a contract with lowest qualified bidder, Tri-Hurst Construction, for the completion of both the Albert R. Lyman Middle School and Monticello High School entryway projects, and to accept Bid Alternate 1 for both projects.*

Motion by Ron T Nielson, second by Don Mose III.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Colleen Benally, Nan Barton, Ron T Nielson, Don Mose III

## 6. 2026-2027 Provisional Contract Renewal

*Motion to approve the proposed contract renewals as outlined in "Provisional Recommendations 2026-2027".*

Motion by Colleen Benally, second by Don Mose III.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Colleen Benally, Nan Barton, Ron T Nielson, Don Mose III

## L. Information Items

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1. Next Board Meeting April 7, 2026 @District Office/Virtual
2. SJSD Appreciation Banquet - March 16, 2026, 6:00 pm
3. USBA Regional Meeting @ SJSD - March 19, 2026, 5:30 pm
4. Spring Break - No School - March 30th-April 3rd 2026

## M. Adjournment

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### 1. Adjournment

*Motion to Adjourn.*

Motion by Don Mose III, second by Colleen Benally.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Colleen Benally, Nan Barton, Ron T Nielson, Don Mose III

  
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Board Officer

  
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District Administrator