

**MINUTES**  
**BLOOMFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, April 22, 2025 (6:00 PM)**

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**ROLL CALL**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tony DeHerrera  
Ben Woody, Jr.  
David Salcido  
Sue Finch

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT:** James Olivas

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** See Sign-In Sheet

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1 Roll Call to Determine a Quorum and Call Meeting to Order**

The Bloomfield School District Board of Education held a Special Board meeting on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., in the Administration Building Board Room, 325 N Bergin Lane, Bloomfield, NM 87413.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

**2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**2.1 Approval of Meeting Agenda**

**Recommendation:** Interim Superintendent recommends approval of the current meeting agenda

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (Sue Finch) Moved, Member (Ben Woody, Jr.) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Interim Superintendent recommends approval of the current meeting agenda'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 3 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 3 - 0**

Tony DeHerrera Yes

Ben Woody, Jr. Yes

Sue Finch Yes

**3.0 EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION**

**3.1 Convene to Closed Session.** Pursuant to NMSA 1978, §10-15-1 H (2) the Bloomfield Schools Board of Education will take action to go into Closed Session to address limited personnel matters; specifically, related to a complaint filed with the Board related to the Superintendent Search. No action will be taken in Closed Session. Action, if any, will be taken when the Board reconvenes in Open Session following the Closed Session.

Authority to conduct a Special Meeting is found in NMSA 1978, §10-15-1 through 10-15-4, of the New Mexico 'Open Meetings Act'.

**Recommendation:** Interim Superintendent recommends convening to closed session to discuss limited personnel matters; specifically, related to a complaint filed with the Board related to the Superintendent Search.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Ben Woody, Jr.**) Moved, Member (**Sue Finch**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Interim Superintendent recommends convening to closed session to discuss limited personnel matters; specifically, related to a complaint filed with the Board related to the Superintendent Search'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 3 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 3 - 0**

Tony DeHerrera Yes  
Ben Woody, Jr. Yes  
Sue Finch Yes

The meeting convened to closed session at 6:07 p.m. Board Secretary, David Salcido arrived at 6:24 p.m.

#### **4.0 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**4.1 Reconvene to Open Session. As required by Section 10-15-1(J) of the 'Open Meetings Act': The only matter discussed during the closed session was limited personnel matters; specifically, related to a complaint filed with the Board related to the Superintendent Search.**

**Recommendation:** Interim Superintendent recommends reconvening to Open Session.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Ben Woody, Jr.**) Moved, Member (**David Salcido**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Interim Superintendent recommends reconvening to Open Session'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 4 - 0**

Tony DeHerrera Yes  
Ben Woody, Jr. Yes  
David Salcido Yes  
Sue Finch Yes

The meeting reconvened to open session at 9:11 p.m.

Board Member Sue Finch stated she will recuse herself from participating in the Superintendent Selection process due to her making comments that were interrupted as being bias regarding national origin and race. Vice President Tony DeHerrera addressed the Board, Members of the Bloomfield Schools Community and all in attendance. Mr. DeHerrera stated "The Board was elected to make difficult decisions on behalf of the School District. Those decisions, of late, have not been popular among some members of our community. As a result, the Board has been confronted with recall petitions, defamation of our character on social media and cruelty and meanness towards out family members. While the Board understands that not everyone in our community understands the reasons for our decisions, you can be assured that we are always taking action to do the best that we can for our community and our constituents. We make decisions based on the information available to the Board. Unfortunately, we usually cannot share all of the information that we know. In order to protect the District from litigation and to ensure the efficacy of the Superintendent search committee, and based on a credible complaint of discrimination received by the Board, Board Member Finch has volunteered to recuse herself from participation in the Superintendent selection process. We appreciate Board Member Finch's willingness to protect the District and ensure equity and fairness in our search for our next Superintendent." Board Policy A-0250 NONDISCRIMINATION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY states, "The Board is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity in relation to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, and disability. This policy will prevail in all matters concerning staff members, students, the public, educational programs and services, and individuals with whom the Board does business." The Board remains committed to this policy and to conducting an equitable and non-discriminatory Superintendent Search. The Board will interview the finalist for the position of Superintendent on May 3, 2025. Thank you.

#### **5.0 ADJOURNMENT**

##### **5.1 Approval to Adjourn Special Board Meeting**

**Recommendation:** Interim superintendent recommends approval to adjourn the special board meeting.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Ben Woody, Jr.**) Moved, Member (**Sue Finch**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Interim superintendent recommends approval to adjourn the special board meeting'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **4** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 4 - 0**

Tony DeHerrera Yes

Ben Woody, Jr. Yes

David Salcido Yes

Sue Finch Yes

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

		<i>Sec.</i>	May 13, 2025
Board Member Signature		Title	Date Approved