

Superintendent School Board Report

May 8, 2023 - Collected and submitted by Ina Montoya

Finishing this school year has been very busy in planning for students to want to come to school up to the last day while maintaining instructional integrity. Testing season seems to be finished. There are just a few more assessments to be taken at the end of May. See Ms. Bonnie's portion on testing windows and this report.

Graduation and promotion ceremonies are part of the end of the year events. Award ceremonies, field day & Hawaiian Last Day of School Theme are also included. Soon summer school and district maintenance repairs we'll begin for the month of June.

The end of each year always has an atmosphere of questioning how did we do by student achievement. It also brings hope for the next school year by revealing needed changes in planning. This school year we were able to eliminate a few computer programs to help with the budget and honed what students need to do on a daily basis.

We also changed the employee pay calendars. Employees, who are 240 employees, are going to be 235 employees. This means they will work 235 days of the year and the district will save on five days of payroll for these individuals. A number of 240 employees were moved to a 220-employee status meaning they will now work 220 days out of the school year and will be able to take school holidays along with students and teachers/EA staff.

The school calendar has to come through school board one more time due to a couple sentences in House Bill 2 that states schools who were ELTP and K-5 Plus Pilot last school year have to have the same number of instructional hours before our school budget can be approved. That means Dulce Elementary will have to have 1266 hours and Dulce Middle and High Schools will have to have 1221 hours of instruction. These changes will be explained in the school calendar portion of this meeting.

Textbooks and supplemental materials have been ordered and a professional development calendar is being developed. Payroll scales, athletic calendars, PBL plans, and district maintenance repair are some items from next year's planning. Overall, DISD is in a much better place than we were this time last school year. We have a long way to go, we have made lots of gains as a district.

DHS Principal Report information – Nancy Jobe

- All make-ups for the SAT and Science testing have been completed.
- Senior festivities are moving along nicely. We have the Senior appreciation banquet sponsored by the tribe on May 8th. The senior trip will be tomorrow to Hinkle's in Albuquerque and Wednesday May 10th will be the last day of school for this year's seniors. The Student Counsel has planned a big day of celebration for our seniors.

Making the Most of the
End of the School Year



- We have 35 registered seniors, and there are 2 who will not be participating in the graduation ceremonies. Both students and parents have been contacted to let them know where they stand. Both students are planning on attending summer school as well as working next semester. We have a couple who are working diligently to make the cut off for grades. The staff and office are working with them to make sure they are successful.
- Remaining activities for the year include – Athletic Banquet on May 11th, NWEA – Maps testing will be the 16-17, Hawk Walk the afternoon of the 16th, Baccalaureate will be May 17th from 6 – 8, Graduation May 20th at 10, finals will be the 22nd – 24th, Last day of school will be June 1st for students.
- A big thank you to Mr. Terry Olguin, Dr. Marcella Talamante, Ms. Vanessa Vicenti, and Christopher Tsosie for escorting 4 students to the symphony on May 7th. The students experienced the symphony as well as fine dining in Santa Fe. The school rented tuxedos for the boys, and the girls sewed ribbon skirts. Thank you to all who aided our students' experience in this trip.
- Ms. Vanessa Vicenti, Mrs. Rachel Mora, and Gary Mora traveled with our students to Washington D.C for the Close-Up trip. They were honored to be able to visit three of our state legislators while on the trip. We have many great photos sent by Ms. Vicenti to hopefully get posted on our website. Thank you to all who supported and helped fund our students trip.

DMS report – submitted by Jack Props

- On April 15 to 22, 2023, we had 14 8th graders from Dulce MS students and 2 8th graders from St. Francis, travel to Washington DC and New York on the Close-Up program. While we were there the students learned about our government and the jobs of our different elected officials. They learned what the President's job was and what he can and cannot do, the job of the House and of the Senate. They were also able to visit a good majority of the monuments and memorials and learn about each one of them. One great thing about the program is that they got to meet and work with students of their same age from other states. This year we had Alaska, Florida, Montana, Alabama, Texas and New Mexico at the program. Also, while in DC the students got to go to an MLB game. When in NY the students got to see many of the major sights to see in NY. They went to the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Wall Street, Central Park, Times Square, a Broadway show: Peter Pan Goes Wrong, 9-11 memorial, and The Top of Rockefeller Center. While on program the students were on program and going every day from 8:00am to 9:30pm every day. We try to pack as much as possible into these days because for many of the students this is their only chance at getting to do all the activities that we do.
- Our 8th grade students have been invited to participate in the San Juan College School of Energy event on Thursday, May 25th.
- May 2nd was National Teacher Day. I would like to thank all our teachers for your dedication to the profession and teaching our students here at Dulce Schools.
- May 26th - Awards ceremony at 8 am

- May 30th 8th grade promotions ceremony at 1 pm in the Middle School
- June 5th – 23rd Summer school begins. 8 am – 3 pm for Middle School (M – TH)

DES Report – submitted by Bob Cooke

- April 19, 2023—Parent Teacher Conference (PTC) was held on April 19, 2023. There were 142 parent/teacher conferences.
- April 21, 2023—PreK-2 went to the zoo via the transportation department’s incentive drive. 3-5 went to the JAN’s Earth Day at the DHS football field.
- April 26, 2023—Attended an Instructure training on a new program PED is putting out to schools called Principals Corner. This looks like it will be extremely valuable and useful to the schools’ operations. Even I liked what I learned.
- April 27, 2023—DES students and staff exhibited their talents at the Poetry Night at DHS Auditorium. Many DIS students braved their public speaking fears and received huge applause.
- April 28, 2023—3-5 went to the zoo via the transportation department’s incentive drive.
- DES is interviewing to replace at least seven teachers and one EA, plus filling EA positions that have not previously been filled. As we are going to focus intensely on reading next year, strong reading teachers are desired.
- May 1, 2023—NMPED came and observed the Pre-K program. They were very impressed with all the work Ms. Ruby Mestas and Dr. Cherry Malaque put into it. We have been approved through 2026.
- May 3, 2023—LANL Foundation came and observed several DES science classes
- May 8th-12th—Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 10, 2023—Family Night at DES—Theme is “A Dinner and a Show”. Dinner is a spaghetti dinner.
- iMSSA testing is scheduled for the week of May 8th.

Risk Management - From Baltazar Madrid

- Vector Solutions Trainings – NMPED required annual trainings for DISD Staff (85% of staff has completed)
- Mold testing in DHS Vault (waiting on results)
- Assisted Maintenance Department in the repairs of HVAC units in all schools and some staff housing furnaces.
- Contracted Coit Cleaning & Restoration to perform the cleaning/disinfecting/sanitizing of staff housing air ducts, dryer vents and kitchen exhaust vents. (30 units completed)
- Removed temporary steps to the Bus Barn (slips, trips and fall hazard). Met with contractors for a quote to construct proper steps and handrails.

Current Testing Windows – submitted by Bonnie Salazar

- NM-MSSA/NM-ASR window closes Friday., May 12th
- DHS - iMSSA window closes Friday, May 26th

- DMS - PSAT 8/9, PSAT 10, & SAT testing has been completed. Juniors also took their NM-ASR (Science) tests. There are a handful of students needing to make up the ASR. which will happen this week.
- DES - NM-MSSA/NM-ASR testing is almost finished. There are 2 students needing to complete their testing.
- NM-MSSA/NM-ASR testing is almost complete. Again, a small handful of students need to finish taking their assessments.
 - Grades 3-8 will start taking the iMSSA assessment in the next couple of weeks. All testing in the district will be completed by May 26th. Scores will be available at different times throughout the summer and parent reports will be sent home in August of next school year.

Human Resources – submitted by Melody Gomez

- Recruitment and interviews to hire for the 10 plus positions which have been vacated due to staff resignations and retirements.
- Offer letters and letters of non-renewal issued the week of May 8, 2023.
- PowerSchool software conversion for final go live within the next five weeks.
- Participated in CBA Negotiations
- NMPED licensure assistance for certified staff who are expiring June 30, 2023.
- Utility reconciliation for temporary housing assignments, (ongoing)
- Recruitment fair May 25, 2023, at San Juan College.
- Work with Business office to convert salary schedule projections to support the calendar day reduction and HB 2 for staff.
- We should also start getting Audit documents towards the end of the month.

Cafeteria Services – submitted by Christina Martinez

- Summer Feeding Grant got approved for Summer School
- Working on NSLP Application
- Filled out FFVP Application, will keep you all posted on if we get that.
- 4 weeks of school left, Summer School starts on June 5th and ends June 22nd.
- Field day for the Elementary is June 1st, lots of fun activities going on

Maintenance – James Montoya

- The wood chips have been delivered and put out on the Elementary playground and also on the Middle School playground.
- The ADA sidewalk has been completed at the Elementary.
- We are finishing up with the filling potholes.
- We are going to start working on the grounds ASAP.
- We are starting to prepare for the Graduation on the 20th of May.
- I am also looking into getting the VMG repainted and the artwork redone.
- We are in the process of getting the High School kitchen project and the Middle School Culinary project finalized.

Data Manager & STARS Reporting – Milton Archuleta

- New Dulce Schools website migration is complete, and we are almost ready to go live with the new website host Apptegy toward the end of May.
- 120th Day reporting is complete and was approved by our school budget analyst at the end of March.
- EOY reporting begins on June 5th and will be finalized by July.
- We have purchased two new PowerSchool products and we are in the process of implementation. Performance Matters for all district testing data management and PowerSchool Talent Ed for our Human Resources Department.
- DHS is implementing Naviance by PowerSchool (counseling tool & career planner). It was purchased by a former administrator, but implementation was never completed.

DISD Athletic Department – submitted by Frank Mestas

- Congratulations to the Boys Track Team for finishing in 7th place with 34 points at the 2A State Track Meet held May 5-6, they were also 2A District 1 Champs and had 13 boys qualify for state. James Johnson earned 13 individual points. He is the STATE CHAMPION in the javelin throw (156' 4").
- Other places include 2nd Place 4 x 800 Meter Relay (Michael Tecube, Bob Harrison Jr, Jaren Johnson, & Isaiah Reval); 2nd Place 1600 Sprint Medley (Jaren Johnson, Bob Harrison Jr, James Johnson, & Isaiah Reval); 3rd Place 400 Meter Dash (James Johnson); 4th Place 1600 Meter Run (Isaiah Reval); 5th Place 110 Meter Hurdles (Jaren Johnson); 5th Place Triple Jump (Jaren Johnson)
- The Girls Track Team placed 3rd at the 2A District Meet and qualified 7 girls for the State Meet.
- Elementary 5th/6th grade basketball completed their season at Penasco on April 22nd. Twenty-five girls and Twenty boys played during the season.
- NMAA Esports concluded with the State Tournament on May 6. Participating in the State Tournament Playoffs included Antonio Brown (Madden NFL 23 & NBA 2K23) also Ellion Reval (Madden NFL 23). Approximately 8-10 students participated in Esports this semester.
- Athletic Banquet May 11th from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm at the HS cafeteria and auditorium.

Transportation Department – submitted by Jacob Herbster

- The department had another bus monitor obtain his CDL we now have 4 CDL school bus drivers. Another bus monitor has passed her general knowledge test and is in the process of finishing the other 3 tests. One bus monitor is in the process of studying for her general knowledge test.
- The electric school buses have been ordered.
- Spring bus evacuations have happened at all 3 schools. DES was scheduled for Monday May 1st DMS was scheduled for Monday May 8th and DHS was scheduled for Monday May 15th.

- All athletic trips have been completed. The transportation department completed 104 activity trips for the 2022-2023 school year.
- All field trips are scheduled with the last field trip on May 28th. The department completed 26 field trips for the entire district for the 2022-2023 school year.
- We will be driving two route buses for all three schools' summer school programs. Start date for the first day of summer school is June 5th and a finish date of June 22nd for all three schools.

DISD Federal Program Updates – submitted by Melissa Polaco

- DISD Grow our Own Initiative is close to the end of the 1st TESOL virtual course offered free to our teaching staff to build toward a TESOL endorsement.
- Title III application (for English language learners) has been submitted.
- Tribal consultation #1 with President Velarde has been held. Consultation #2 is in the planning stage.
- Title I and II: Federal Programs is in the planning process to complete Title I and Title II applications in preparation for instructional programming for SY 23-24.

Director of Instruction – Estefanita Abeyta

- ***NOTE:** The responsibilities in this list are ongoing throughout the year.*
- Assisted with initial beginning of year walkthroughs and formal end of year evaluations at DES.
- Ensured that site Principals and Superintendent had an updated list of teacher licenses and endorsements for proper staffing purposes.
- Assisted with curriculum orders as requested by school sites.
- On going participation of teacher interviews as requested by HR.
- Monitoring of yearlong teacher Professional Development as mandated by NMPED Reporting.
- Monitoring of classroom data
- NMDASH Reviewer
- Attend Board meetings and other special meetings upon request of the Superintendent or other administrators.
- Participation on CANVAS implementation for 2023-2024 SY
- Input in the development of an administrative long-range plan which considers the educational, financial, and staffing needs for the school district.
- Serve as a contributing member of the administrative team and serve on assigned committees.
- Assist and coordinate a continuing program of staff development to strengthen personnel performance in the district.
- Consult and plan with appropriate individuals to assure that staff development activities are coordinated throughout the district.
- Act in the absence of the Superintendent when so designated.
- Other duties as assigned by the Superintendent of Schools.

- Work closely with Federal Programs Director to ensure and facilitate professional development initiatives.
- **Other:** assist as called upon by district administrators

MLSS and SAT – submitted by Maria Ferrell

- MLSS training scheduled district-wide for Friday May 12 - What is MLSS and how to track or document in the classroom?
- MLSS forms have been emailed to all teachers to utilize for documentation in their classrooms.
- PLC agendas have been passed out to all teachers/Site coordinators.
- SAT folders lists have been completed based on what folders were retrieved from the sites.
- Priority students' names were requested 2 weeks ago, to schedule SAT meetings before the end of year.
- High school names were taken and starting from beginning with request for PLPs (Present Levels of Performance) from teachers, due to water damaged folders.
- Requested PLPs from teachers to schedule senior exit SATs this week.

Special Education - Submitted by Katie Cachucha, Special Education Coordinator **SPED Enrollment**

Currently registered # of Students with IEPs: 111

- DES: 42 students with IEPs
 - DMS: 22 students with IEPs
 - DHS: 30 students with IEPs
 - Preschool-aged: 5 students with IEPs
 - St. Francis: 10 students with Private School Service Plans
- Currently, 8 additional students are undergoing initial evaluations of suspected disability

Staffing

- **Ancillary Staff**
 - Occupational Therapy, and Social Work are secure for the end of 2022-2023 and moving into 2023-2024; however, our contracting agencies have struggled to secure enough providers to meet the amount of speech/language therapy services needed by students in our district this year. One provider has returned to provide in-person evaluations and services from April-end of school year; however, compensatory service needs are being tracked.
 - The educational diagnostician serving our district through LSG and Associates is not planning to return to Dulce in 2023-2024 (she plans to work closer to home in Albuquerque area). Physical Therapist serving our district through The Stepping Stones Group does not plan to return to serving Dulce for 2023-2024.

- The social worker serving our district through CES is not able to travel to Dulce at all; we are seeking an in-person provider for 2023-2024
- I propose advertising salaried full-time positions for 2023-2024 for the positions of speech/language pathologist and educational diagnostician to try to recruit applicants beyond those currently working for contracting agencies (these positions have been contracted since 2017). I recommend renewing current contracts for physical therapy and school psychological evaluation services and requesting new proposals/bids for .5 FTE social work services.
- **SPED Staff**
 - The Special Education Department is fully staffed with special education teachers; one educational assistant is still needed.
- **Events/Ongoing Tasks**
 - Special Education Department and Dulce High School hosted a regional representative from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation on 4/19 at Dulce High School. From 4-7 pm, the representative shared information with high school students and adult community members with disabilities on applying for and participating in the program for help with getting and keeping work.
 - Special Education Coordinator attended regional virtual Walsh Gallegos roundtable discussion hosted by NWREC2 on 4/27, as well as PowerSchool Special Education Office Hours (technical assistance with IEP software) on the same day.
 - Special Education teachers Marco Badilla, Nicholas Genovese, Dianne Gargar, Greloures Illustrisimo and Juliana Peralta, as well as district Student Assistance Team Coordinator attended in-person training offered by NWREC in Espanola on 4/28 on responding to requests for evaluation and preparing for new IEP document template.
 - The department is currently preparing 2023-2024 IDEA B Budget application as information about this process is received from NMPED.

