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BEFORE THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS COMMUNITY INPUT HEARING Raíces del Saber Xinachtli Community School July 20, 2018 1:00 p.m. New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum 4100 Dripping Springs Road Las Cruces, New Mexico

REPORTED BY: Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR-CRR, NM CCR #219 Bean & Associates, Inc. Professional Court Reporting Service 201 Third Street, NW, Suite 1630 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

JOB NO.: 597N (CC)

2 (Pages 2 to 5)

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1	A P P E A R A N C E S	1	allow for community input about the charter
2	COMMISSIONERS:	2	application. The time for public comments will be
3	MS. PATRICIA GIPSON, Chair	3	limited to 20 minutes. If you wish to speak
	MS. KARYL ANN ARMBRUSTER, Secretary	4	regarding the application, please sign in at least
4	MS. DANIELLE JOHNSTON, Member	5	15 minutes prior to the presentation. Please be
-	MR. DAVID ROBBINS, Member	6	sure that you indicate on the sign-up sheet whether
5	MS. CARMIE TOULOUSE, Member	7	you are here in opposition or support of the charter
6 7	STAFF: MS. KATIE POULOS, Director, Charter School Division	8	school.
/	MS. KAREN WOERNER, Staff	9	The Commission Chair, based on the number
8	W5. KAREN WOLKNER, Staff	10	of requests to comment, will allocate time to those
9		11	wishing to speak. If there are a large number of
10		12	supporters or opponents, they are asked to select a
11		13	speaker to represent common opinions. We will try
12		13	to allocate an equitable amount of time.
13		15	The Commission will follow this process
14		15	for each community input hearing:
15		17	
16		17	The Commission will ask each applicant or
17 18			group to present at the podium in front. They will
18 19		19	be given 20 minutes to present their application in
20		20	the manner they deem appropriate. The Commission
21		21	will not accept any written documentation from the
22		22	applicant; but the applicant may use exhibits to
23		23	describe their school, if necessary; however, the
24		24	setup time for exhibits will be included in the
25		25	20 minutes.

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1 1 Following the applicant's presentation, THE CHAIR: Good afternoon, everyone. I'm 2 2 the local school district representatives, which going to call to order this community input hearing 3 3 of the Public Education Commission. includes superintendent, administrators, board 4 4 members, will be given 10 minutes to comment. It is Friday, July 20th, 2018 [verbatim]. 5 5 I am going to go through the general procedure for Subsequently, the Commission will allow 20 6 6 today. This meeting is being conducted pursuant -minutes for public comment, as described above. 7 7 Finally, the Commission will be given (A discussion was held off the record.) 8 8 THE CHAIR: Okay. This meeting is being 40 minutes to ask questions of the applicant. 9 9 conducted pursuant to New Mexico Statutes Annotated And the Commission does reserve the right 10 10 to extend the 40 minutes if we feel that there are Title 22, Section 8B-6J 2009. The purpose of these 11 11 community input hearings that will be held on questions that still need to be answered and to be 12 12 able to get a complete look. July 19th and 20th is to obtain information from the 13 13 applicants and to receive community input to assist So I will ask the Commissioners now if 14 14 the Public Education Commission in its decision when they're ready. And we'll just go through a brief to grant the proposed charter applications. 15 15 introduction of the Commissioners so everyone is 16 16 According to this section of the law, the familiar with who-all we are. 17 17 Commissioner Robbins? Commission may appoint a subcommittee of no fewer 18 18 than three members to hold a public hearing. COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: My name is David 19 19 Robbins. I represent District 2, which is the far According to law, these hearings are being 20 20 transcribed by a professional court reporter. east side of Albuquerque. 21 21 COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: I am Carmie The total time allocated to each 22 Toulouse. I represent District 3, which is a good 22 application is 90 minutes, which will be timed to 23 23 ensure an equitable opportunity to present part of Albuquerque, but none of the west side or 24 24 the part that he's got. applications. 25 25 THE CHAIR: I'm Patty Gipson. I represent During the hearing, the Commission will

3 (Pages 6 to 9)

	Page 6		Page 8
1	District 7, which fortunately is most of Doña Ana	1	reclaiming of cultural heritage.
2	County and a little bit of Otero County. So I'm	2	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: Madam Chairman,
3	happy to be home with this. And I'm also the Chair	3	Commissioners, thank you. My name is Carlos Aceves.
4	of the Commission.	4	I am a bilingually certified teacher in elementary
5	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: I'm Danielle	5	bilingual education in the State of Texas. Im one
6	Johnston, and I represent District 8. We run in the	6	of the founders of Raíces and also one of the
7	north from Mora County all the way down we border	7	developers of the Xinachtli Project, which is
8	District 7, Commissioner Gipson area, and then	8	integral to our curriculum and our proposed school.
9	District 10 on the east side.	9	I would like to remind everyone, and
10	THE CHAIR: I will remind everyone at this	10	especially the Commissioners, that we believe that
11	point in time if they would silence their electronic	11	our most important contribution to this community
12	devices. So if you if you will do so. And if	12	the most important contribution of our school would
13	you are going to speak, if you will first identify	13	be a research-based, effective approach to early
14	yourself by name so that it is in the record.	14	childhood bilingual education that I think most of
15	So are the applicants ready?	15	you know as a 90/10 model. And this model is rather
16	So if you will, who's ever going to come	16	unique.
17	up first to speak. But as you come as the first	17	There's are three places that are
18	person comes up, if you would identify everyone that	18	implementing it. [Unintelligible.] Our 90/10 model
19	you wish that's with the school at this point in	19	will have the components of being culturally and
20	time.	20	linguistically responsive; B, positive identity in a
21	And we'll lower the screen, because we're	21	number of ways.
22	going to move out so we can watch the presentation.	22	One is the way we view parents and
23	Okay?	23	students is we view them as assets, as bringing in
24	MS. LAURA SALAZAR FLORES: Good afternoon,	24	their experiences, knowledge that we will use in the
25	board members. Good afternoon. My name is Laura	25	construction of the important elements of our
		1	

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1 1 Salazar Flores. I am a bilingual special education, curriculum. 2 2 nationally board certified teacher in the State of And the second one is that we're going to 3 New Mexico. I am also a Gadsden School District 3 be introducing the Mexican-American heritage 4 School Board member. 4 culture, which includes Nawa, one of the base 5 5 I am a founder of Raíces, one of five languages for modern-day Spanish, as an enrichment 6 6 presenters this afternoon. So as we're passing, language. 7 7 we'll introduce ourselves to the board and to the And our -- our approach to math and 8 8 audience. science is going to be primarily interested in the 9 This is a list of the founders and 9 students learning the concepts as well as the 10 10 governing board members of Raíces. applications. We developed a math curriculum --11 11 Moving on to our mission statement: we've got a math curriculum, what's called the MC² 12 12 Raíces del Saber Xinachtli Community program at NMSU here in town, or Math Connected 13 School implements a developmentally appropriate 13 Communities. And their program emphasizes four 14 14 rigorous program through an interdisciplinary things that are integrated: Concept, reasoning, 15 curriculum that is experiential, participatory, 15 problem solving, and computational fluency, all of 16 biliterate, child-centered, and culturally 16 which concepts is very important. 17 17 responsive. Our students learn Spanish and English, We are very aware that we train our 18 achieving academic proficiency in all subjects in 18 teachers. We've set aside 22 days for teacher 19 19 both languages as they develop critical and creative training from all aspects of our curriculum. 20 thinking skills. 20 I want to emphasize that the 90/10 model 21 21 Raíces creates an environment where in an 18-year longitudinal study that has been found 22 22 students and parents are valued as participants in to be the most effective model for bilingual 23 the construction of knowledge and the creation of a 23 education in early childhood. 24 24 learning community that promotes high academic There's two -- currently, there's two 25 25 performance, positive identity formation, and the other schools in Albuquerque, Navajo Elementary and

4 (Pages 10 to 13)

			4 (Fages 10 to 15)
	Page 10		Page 12
1	Cien Aguas, that our founders have visited and in	1	and their parents in creating an environment where
2	dialogue with the administrators there. And they	2	all students are accepted in the classroom.
3	are their scores are, in the PARCC, really show	3	I will now describe the assessment and
4	the effectiveness of the 90/10 model. And this is	4	evaluation process.
5	the kind of model we want to implement here,	5	Raíces will utilize a variety of tools to
6	something which would be rather unique, that there	6	measure the growth and proficiency of our students
7	isn't a program like it currently in use in	7	and the effectiveness of the school. Some of these
8	Las Cruces Public Schools or this area.	8	include performance-based assessments, portfolios,
9	So thank you very much.	9	diagnostic evaluations, state and nationally normed
10	MS. AMANDA WALDEN: Good afternoon. I'm	10	tests, behavior records, and classroom formative and
11	Amanda Walden, one of the founders of Raíces and a	11	summative assessments.
12	certified special education teacher in the State of	12	Monitoring will be conducted on a daily,
13	New Mexico.	13	weekly, and monthly basis to analyze results from
14	Raíces will be an environment that	14	the various assessments given. Emotional
15	constantly works toward the inclusion of all	15	well-being, academic performance, biliteracy, and
16	students. Students with learning differences and	16	parental satisfaction are some of the areas we plan
17	English Language Learners operate in perspective to	17	to track and evaluate for course correction.
18	the classroom, and we embrace these alternative ways	18	Students who are struggling will be
19	of learning.	19	monitored closely through interventions and data
20	We are prepared to provide special	20	collection. Students with IEPs, 504 plans, or
21	education and ELL services in the general education	21	English Language Learners will be provided with the
22	setting. General education teachers, in	22	necessary alternative assessments based on their
23	collaboration with the special education teacher,	23	specific needs.
24	will be well-versed in modifying curriculum,	24	Assessment results, including strengths in
25	utilizing guided language acquisition design	25	areas where the student is struggling, will be part
	Page 11		Page 13
1	strategies and providing assembled tions based on	1	of the nextlen dial encourt the both student and

	rage 11		rage 15
1	strategies, and providing accommodations based on	1	of the regular dialogues with both student and
2	student needs.	2	parents. It is imperative that staff are
3	The reading, writing, and math blocks have	3	consistently aware of what is going well in the
4	guided instruction built in so that students can	4	classroom and any changes that need to take place
5	receive instruction focused on their level or way of	5	based on analysis of both group and individual
6	learning. In addition, included in each day will be	6	student data.
7	45 minutes of English language development mandated	7	Thank you.
8	by the State.	8	DR. JANE ASHE: Madam Chair and
9	We acknowledge that some of the students	9	Commissioners, good afternoon.
10	we serve may benefit from pullout services in order	10	I am Jane Ashe, a founder and board member
11	to address specified academic or behavioral needs in	11	of Raíces. I am a retired educator with 40 years of
12	a small group.	12	experience at the elementary, high school, and
13	Students with Individualized Education	13	college level.
14	Plans will have rigorous goals written based upon	14	Now we turn to the organizational
15	grade-level standards and upon their present levels,	15	structure. You see at the top of the slide there,
16	strengths, and needs.	16	"Governance Board, Key Responsibilities."
17	Progress will be monitored regularly for	17	In fact, the organizational structure is
18	students with IEPs and for English Language	18	designed to support the success of the school
19	Learners, to ensure they are responding to the	19	mission and academic programs. To achieve the
20	instruction and the content.	20	ambitious outcomes of the mission and the academic
21	Consistent communication with parents to	21	programs, we have developed a plan for a strong
22	gather their input and convey progress is essential	22	governance board with a wide array of skills,
23	to create a strong support system for the students	23	including board development, business finance,
24	at Raíces.	24	accounting, fundraising, expertise in bilingual and
25	We value the relationships with students	25	bicultural education, cultural knowledge of the
		1	

			5 (Pages 14 to 17)
	Page 14		Page 16
1	region, and legal expertise.	1	important features with regard to leadership and
2	This board must contribute to the success	2	operations.
3	of the school by executing a range of key	3	Notice the yellow box on the right-hand
4	responsibilities in three major efforts:	4	side labeled "Concilio de Padres, the Parents
5	First, ensuring the bylaws, policies, and	5	Council." This advisory council is considered to be
6	procedures are reviewed throughout the year to	6	a key leadership group in a community school where
7	evaluate whether they are contributing to success of	7	parents are taken seriously as important partners in
8	the school mission or need to be revised.	8	their child's education.
9	Second, carrying out a carefully designed	9	The council has board representation
10	plan for evaluating the effectiveness of the school	10	through a parent member or the governance board. It
11	principal and supporting his in his support of	11	functions as an opportunity for parents to be
12	the school faculty and staff in creating a	12	engaged in the school and offer meaningful input.
13	culturally responsive environment conducive to	13	It also is a an important source of information
14	achieving the academic goals.	14	to school staff concerning parents' needs, if they
15	Third, ongoing monitoring throughout the	15	are to do their best in supporting their child and
16	year of progress in four important areas, which you	16	the teachers in achieving the school goals.
17	see up on the slide:	17	Conversely, the teacher representative on
18	A. We know that effective school boards	18	the council helps parents understand teacher needs
19	commit to mission-driven vision of high expectations	19	for their school board.
20	for student achievement and quality instruction, and	20	Second, we want you to notice the green
21	they define clear goals to monitor progress toward	21	box on the right-hand side that says, "Director of
22	the vision.	22	School Operations and Community Engagement."
23	B. We know that the effective that	23	This person reports directly to and works
24	effective school boards are accountability-driven,	24	as a partner with the principal to ensure all
25	leaving school operations to the role of the	25	operations, functions, and communications with the
	Page 15		Page 17

1	principal and focusing on policies informed by	1	parent advisory council and community are working
2	monitoring of data to continuously improve student	2	effectively. This is a very important function in a
3	achievement.	3	community school model, which is shown by analysis
4	C. We know that effective boards align	4	of longitudinal research data reported by the NEA to
5	and sustain resources through careful fiscal	5	significantly increase school attendance achievement
6	monitoring to meet the school goals.	6	levels, and well-being of students.
7	And, D, we know that effective boards make	7	We know from the research disseminated by
8	sure that the board and school are in compliance	8	the Center for Public Education that effective
9	with the multitude of state statutes and codes,	9	school boards have a collaborative relationship with
10	listed in 3.B. on the slide, to ensure academic	10	staff and the community and establish a strong
11	rigor, fiscal accountability, and openness to the	11	communication structure to inform and engage both
12	public in all board actions.	12	internal and external stakeholders.
13	Now, I want to take a look at the	13	On this second organizational chart, we
14	organizational chart. We want to share with you two	14	want to share with you we've talked about a
15	versions of the Raíces organizational chart,	15	number of complex set of tasks that board leadership
16	designed to assist in achievement of school mission	16	and school management need to accomplish. So next,
17	and academic goals.	17	we want to take a quick look at this chart and at
18	As you look at that chart, there are three	18	the board-appointed committees that have been
19	major components related to organizational	19	developed to help get all this work accomplished.
20	structure. The leadership and management is	20	On this slide, they are represented by the
21	identified by yellow boxes.	21	blue boxes. The dotted lines show the lines of
22	The curriculum and instructional team, the	22	communication with school leadership and other board
23	pink boxes.	23	committees, and solid lines show their direct report
24	The operations staff, the green boxes.	24	to the board.
25	We want to point out two key and very	25	On the left-hand side of the slide, you
	•		-

6 (Pages 18 to 21)

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	Page 18		Page 20
1	see the three standing committees of the board	1	audit committees will be very involved in working
2	required by our bylaws.	2	with the principal and business manager to see that
3	The governance board committee, which is	3	monthly finance reports to the board are timely and
4	responsible for action plans for ongoing	4	accurate and that all financial information is
5	recruitment, training of qualified board members,	5	available and up-to-date for the annual external
6	and the process for evaluation of board performance	6	audit in compliance with the State Audit Act and in
7	is at the top there on the left-hand side.	7	collaboration with the Public Education Department.
8	Next, you see the finance committee, which	8	Next, we'll take a quick look here at a
9	is responsible for seeing that accurate and timely	9	question that was on the application about, "What
10	monthly financial statements are available to the	10	would you do if there were unforeseen budget and
11	school, and the board, in particular.	11	cash flow challenges?"
12	The audit committee, which is you see	12	In the case of unforeseen budget or cash
13	next on that left side, is responsible for making	13	flow challenges, most often caused by not making
14	sure that all financial records are in order for the	14	enrollment projections, these are the things that we
15	annual external audit, and the school is	15	would do to overcome or avert the challenges. And
16	responsible and that the school is responsive to	16	you can see them listed there on the PowerPoint
17	ensure repeat audit findings.	17	slide.
18	On the right hand of the slide, you see	18	DR. NICHOLAS NATIVIDAD: Madam Chair,
19	four other committees; first, the Curriculum/School	19	Commissioners, good afternoon. My name is
20	Performance committee that carefully monitors the	20	Dr. Nicholas Natividad, Professor at New Mexico
21	results of various assessments of student progress	21	State University. I currently serve as the Dean's
22	and organizational outcomes so the board is	22	Fellow in the College of Education, and I'm the
23	constantly aware of progress toward the academic and	23	liaison to Raíces de Saber [unintelligible] New
24	mission-related goals and charter contract	24	Mexico State University.
25	commitments of the school.	25	I want to talk first about the evidence of
	Page 19		Page 21
1	Next, the Community Partnership committee	1	support. There have been since this project has
2	is responsible for nurturing community partners to	2	begun, there have been 330 parents who have come to
3	provide community support and access to resources.	3	information sessions, workshops, demonstrations
5	provide community support and access to resources.		momentation bessions, workshops, demonstrations

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- 4 Then you see below that, School
- 5 Development committee, which plays a major role in 6 fundraising.
- 7 In the Facilities committee, that ensures 8
- that -- the Facilities committee ensures the fact
- 9 that the facilities are developed and maintained to 10 provide the best learning environment possible.
- 11 We want to turn now to financial
- 12 accountability. 13
- The founders and the board members are 14 fully aware that the lack of careful financial
- 15 controls is one of the greatest sources of trouble 16 and can lead to a school losing its charter. The
- 17 internal financial controls provided in this
- 18 application in Appendix H were developed by Juliette
- 19 Rivera, who has 10 years of experience as a business
- 20 manager for the local charter school, Alma d'Arte,
- 21 which has a good record of clean audits in recent 22
- years, with zero audit findings in 2016 and one 23 small finding in 2017. She is also skilled as a
- 24 chief procurement officer.
- 25 As mentioned before, the financial and

slide. So, actually, first one we'll talk about, Ethnic Studies Curriculum, which is important for

lasting anywhere from an hour to all day, 29 events

have offered in-kind support and 21 organizations

that wrote formal letters of support. Chief among

them -- and you see some of the organizations

offered financial support once the charter is

\$50,000; and other important resources in

There are 17 community organizations that

listed -- Kellogg and McCune Foundations, which have

approved; Raza Development Fund, which provides

NACA Inspired Schools Network, which will provide

partnership with New Mexico State University College

funding of \$200,000 for [inaudible] instruction;

in total, to learn about the curriculum to be

offered by Raíces.

21 22 you to understand. There are four things that have

of Education, which I will discuss in the next

- 23 come out of numerous research in regards to the
- 24 impact the Ethnic Studies group has had. 25
 - The first is rigor, how rigorous the

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	Page 22		Page 24
1	curriculum can be, which is what Raíces does,	1	facing each other. Thanks.
2	community schools model after.	2	But before we do that I will ask I
3	Academic achievement. High academic	3	don't think there is anyone. But I will ask if
4	achievement, the results of this type of curriculum	4	there is anyone from the local school district here.
5	being put in place.	5	I don't think I saw anybody okay. Thank you.
6	The retention levels have gone up across	6	We're now on to the Public Comment
7	the board of students that are exposed to this	7	portion.
8	curriculum, and we find graduation rates also rise.	8	So I think we actually well, you if
9	One example, which is the Stanford	9	you want to just hand that off to whoever comes up
10	Graduate School Education Study, which examined the	10	and speaks, we're okay. But there are 15 people who
11	impact of ethnic studies over a four-year period	11	signed up to speak. So we've divided it out. And
12	from 2010 to 2014. This study has been well-cited,	12	it ends up being a magnanimous 1 minute and
13	and has been replicated in numerous levels across	13	20 seconds for everyone.
14	the country.	14	So I will ask you to come forward to speak
15	And the one thing that it shows is the	15	and please say your name and repeat your last name
16	impact that ethnic studies has for, specifically,	16	for the record.
17	what we have on most students for academic	17	And the first one on my list is Reyna
18	achievement, retention, and graduation rates.	18	Salcedo.
19	Next slide.	19	FROM THE FLOOR: Good afternoon,
20	Next I want to discuss just what the	20	Madam Chairperson. My name is Maria Reyna Salcedo.
21	New Mexico State University partnership would look	21	Salcedo.
22	like. The Dean of the College of Education has been	22	And I'm here. I'm a principal at Bill
23	very active in support of this initiative.	23	Childress Elementary School in [unintelligible].
24	Currently, Dr. Betsy Cahill, who's the	24	This is the Canutillo Independent School District,
25	Interim Associate Dean right now, and is also the	25	where Mr. Aceves volunteered to be part of our
	Page 23		Page 25
1	Page 23	1	Page 25
1 2	director of Myrna's Children's Village, which is a pre-K lab school in the College of Education and is	$\begin{vmatrix} 1\\2 \end{vmatrix}$	enrichment program.
2	located on campus, has also been very supportive.	$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 3 \end{vmatrix}$	And he presented the Xinachtli program to
3 4	She has talked about the background that	4	our kinder through fifth grade through the school
4 5	exists between the pre-K lab school	5	year. One of the biggest there were three
6	THE CHAIR: I'm sorry. That was the time.	6	large impacts that I can tell you. One of them was
7	DR. NICHOLAS NATIVIDAD: Okay. Just the	7	the motivation factor. And at this day and age, we
8	last concluding thoughts that I want to go through.	8	know that when we have technology, that's very, very
9	The New Mexico State University	9	difficult. But the Xinachtli program managed to do
10	partnership at Raíces is a proven innovative and	10	that with our kids.
11	rigorous education program that creates	11	The second very important was the academic
12	[unintelligible] in the region for a culturally	12	performance. And we know this, because our math
13	responsive school.	13	scores in fourth-grade students improved from 66 to
14	Thank you.	14	94 percent.
15	THE CHAIR: Thank you all so much.	15	The third was just the process, the
16	You know, I'm going to ask now if it would	16	journey, the path. You know, sometimes we focus on
17	be easier and all right with you if we took the mic	17	goals; but the path is just as important, probably
18	off of the podium so that when we get to the point	18	even more, because it teaches the students that
19	where we're starting to ask questions, the folks	19	serenity, that harmony, that concept of waiting that
20	there could just pass the microphone, and they could	20	we have lost. It engages and I was engaged in
21	stay there, so that they wouldn't have to get up to	21	one of the lessons. And using the simple drum,
22	the podium, and it might be a little bit easier for	22	rattle, and flutes to [unintelligible] interactions.
23	everyone.	23	THE CHAIR: Thank you so much.
24	So is that that's okay with you, it	24	FROM THE FLOOR: Thank you.
25	might actually be easier because you're going to be	25	I have a letter Do I mail it? Do I give

²⁵ might actually be easier because you're going to be

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	Page 26		Page 28
1	it to you?	1	FROM THE FLOOR: Commissioners, I am Emma
2	THE CHAIR: You can leave it, yes.	2	Galindo Armendariz. Armendariz.
3	Next is Rosa Olacio.	3	I have the distinct honor and blessing to
4	FROM THE FLOOR: (Use of interpreter.)	4	be one of the original educators who invented
5	Very good afternoon. My name is Rosa	5	bilingual education for our state, initially, and as
6	Olacio. This is the first time that I come here,	6	a compensatory model. And I saw it develop over
7	but I have heard of different programs in the	7	time, and, actually, was a principal of one of the
8	community. And I've come here in support of the	8	first pilots for a 90/10 dual language bilingual
9	program, because I think that our children and our	9	school in Albuquerque at Longfellow Elementary.
10	grandchildren should follow the protocols of the	10	We had wonderful success during the
11	knowledge of our ancestors, so that our children	11	five-year period that we were a pilot.
12	will not forget the teachings, which includes the	12	As a bilingual teacher and an
13	culture and the education, so that they can develop	13	administrator who served in our state's educational
14	their, I would say	14	system for 48 years, I saw the 90/10 dual language
15	THE CHAIR: Time is up.	15	program in Albuquerque, Las Cruces, and other
16	FROM THE FLOOR: So the children will	16	districts have many successes in helping students
17	continue to develop their education.	17	develop strong educational skills, become fully
18	THE CHAIR: Thank you.	18	bilingual, and, actually, many of them, to regain
19	FROM THE FLOOR: Madam Chair, may I make a	19	their ancestral language as well as their culture.
20	quick clarification? Is it okay if I have a quick	20	Our country, and especially our state,
21	point of order? For folks who are Spanish-speaking,	21	where we have strong cultural ways for bilingualism,
22	do they receive two minutes and 40 seconds as	22	need to implement this type of program so we can
23	opposed to the 1 minute and 20 seconds to allow time	23	join three-quarters of the world which is bilingual,
24	for the interpreter to share?	24	if not multi-lingual. Our children in current
25	THE CHAIR: We had not	25	society need the linguistic and academic skills to

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1	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: We could.	1	participate, not only in our group, but in our
2	THE CHAIR: It takes double the time.	2	world.
3	MS. POULOS: Or I can pause it during the	3	Thank you.
4	Spanish and then restart it during the reading.	4	THE CHAIR: Thank you. For the timer's
5	THE CHAIR: We'll pause it during and only	5	purpose, the next person that's coming up is reading
6	run it when someone when she's doing the	6	a statement from a local representative, and she's
7	translation to us, okay?	7	staying up for her own. She's signed up twice.
8	And thank you.	8	So next is Yvonne Flores.
9	I apologize. I think it's the last	9	FROM THE FLOOR: Good afternoon, Madam
10	name is Benavidez, but I can't read it very well.	10	Chair, and thank you so much. Im here on behalf of
11	Juan Benavidez?	11	Joanne Ferrary, who is our State Representative in
12	FROM THE FLOOR: My name is Juan	12	this area of Las Cruces.
13	Benavidez. Benavidez.	13	"I regret not being able to address you in
14	I am a member of the Piro-Manso-Tiwa	14	person. I feel strongly we should be supporting
15	Indian tribe. My job there is a historian.	15	multi-cultural education"
16	I am Juan Benavidez. Benavidez.	16	THE CHAIR: Can you pause you for just a
17	I represent the Piro-Manso-Tiwa Indian	17	second?
18	Tribe. I am a for the tribe, I am a historian.	18	FROM THE FLOOR: "As a participating
19	All of us has something to do. We all have a	19	member of the Research Education Study Committee, we
20	certain job, unless we give all the members	20	are actually studying the best practices of
21	[unintelligible] ourself. And I support the school.	21	successful educational systems from around the
22	I can't remember the name.	22	world.
23	Thank you. That's all I'm going to say.	23	"Some of the keys to success are the ones
24	THE CHAIR: Thank you.	24	that are also incorporated into the framework of the
25	Next is Emma Armendariz.	25	Raíces del Saber Xinachtli Community School.

9 (Pages 30 to 33)

	Page 30		Page 32
		1	
1	"Students are learning in their own	1	experience of being sent to the corner of the
2	language, which makes for better comprehension of	2	classroom facing the wall in first and second grades
3	reading, writing, and math.	3	in El Paso because I did not speak English. We were
4	"Using the 'dual languages by immersion'	4	ashamed to eat our lunch, which we called "tacos,"
5	model is backed by 18 years of linguistic research	5	and today know as "burritos."
6	and increases flexible thinking in the brain.	6	Thank you very much, and I'll submit this.
7	"Community involvement and having a strong	7	And I'm also City Council for the City of
8	board will ensure the sustainability of the school	8	Las Cruces; although, I'm not here on behalf of the
9	and success of the students."	9	City. But for identification purposes only.
10	"I also appreciate the inclusion of	10	Thank you very much.
11	English-speaking young students so that they may	11	THE CHAIR: Thank you. And just so
12	have the opportunity to learn a second language by	12	everyone is aware, at the conclusion of this,
13	immersion. This was an opportunity I knew was	13	we'll we will I will save the information
14	important and was denied to my own children when	14	and I believe it's also at the table on how
15	they were in elementary school in the '80s.	15	support information can be provided to PED for us
16	"Please accept and approve the application	16	over the next couple of days.
17	and funding for Raíces de Saber Xinchtli [sic]	17	Thank you. Next on is Alan Brauer.
18	Community" "Xinachtli" oh, a typo	18	FROM THE FLOOR: Good afternoon,
19	"Community School."	19	Madam Chair and members of the Commission. My name
20	THE CHAIR: Thank you.	20	is Alan Brauer, and I'm the fellowship director and
21	FROM THE FLOOR: "And thank you.	21	education team lead of NACA Inspired School Network.
22	"Sincerely, Joanne Ferrary."	22	I want to share my complete support for
23	Mine is a bit longer. So good afternoon	23	Raíces del Saber.
24	again, Madam Chair and Commissioners, and thank you	24	Lucia Carmona, one of the members of the
25	for having us here today. I am here today to	25	team, is a fellow with us. They have put an
	Page 31		Page 33
1	express to you my experience and some of my	1	extraordinary amount of head and heart into
2	subjective experience.	2	developing an innovative school for the students of
3	As a Mexican-American whose first	3	Las Cruces and the surrounding communities.
4	language my first language is Spanish. I hold a	4	The 90/10 dual language model, that also
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- 5 bachelor's degree in Spanish literature and a Juris
 6 Doctor -- Juris Doctor from the University of
- 6 Doctor -- Juris Doctor from the University of
 7 California and am a former professor at California
- 8 State University of Chicana literature,
- 9 Constitutional issues, and Spanish for Spanish
- 10 Speakers, at which time I saw my students struggling
- 11 with a variety of identity and basic discrimination
- 12 because of their ancestry and language spoken at
- home, many of whom were forced to speak English tothe exclusion of speaking Spanish.
- 15 Although many of the Spanish-speaking16 population today in the Southwest United States have
- 17 Native American ancestry, the "Indio" has been
- denied our true native languages spoken throughoutthe Americas, consequently resulting in the
- 20 disappearance of our culture, because language is
- 21 inherently tied to culture.22 Regrettably, many of us have been forced
- 22 Regrettably, many of us have been forced 23 to speak English exclusively, denied our diverse
- cultures, and suffer bullying and discrimination.
- 25 My educational journey was a much suffered

- The 90/10 dual language model, that also incorporates indigenous language, culture, and wisdom, will support students through rigorous academics, while also developing their identity as humans in their community.
- 9 Lucia and the Raíces team are the model
 10 for community-led design of schools. They have
 11 consistently led by an approach of procreation from
 12 top to bottom in their school design.
- Also, as an English-only person, I have
 gained an extraordinary amount of empathy in working
 with Raíces. I have joined numerous team meetings
 with community members, where I'm the only one with
 a deficit in Spanish.
- The beauty of Raíces lies with developing
 biliterate student leaders who will become
 intimately secure in their indigenous identity. The
 strength that comes from this is indispensable, and
- 22 I urge you all to approve the school.
 - THE CHAIR: Next is Carrie Hamblen.
 - FROM THE FLOOR: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- 25 My name is Carrie Hamblen. H-A-M-B-L-E-N.

23

24

			10 (Pages 34 to 37)
	Page 34		Page 36
1	I am the CEO and president of the	1	Huerta.
2	Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce, and that is	2	FROM THE FLOOR: Good afternoon. My name
3	what I'm representing here today.	3	is Luis Huerta. I'm an Associate Professor in the
4	The Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce	4	College of Education. And I just want to emphasize
5	talks about local businesses and protecting our air,	5	the importance of having a school like this in the
6	land, and water. We talk about the triple bottom	6	community for two main reasons.
7	line, people, planning, and profit, which is why I'm	7	One of them is that in the College of
8	here to talk to you today.	8	Education, through the [unintelligible] program, we
9	There is a need for a school like this.	9	have had [unintelligible] providing that kind of
10	One of our charter schools, the J. Paul Taylor	10	partnership with the district, I being one of the
11	Academy, which is a social justice, bilingual, and	11	[unintelligible] on-site experience that we have in
12	project-based charter school, is at maximum capacity	12	different schools, two in Las Cruces and one in
13	with a 159-person waiting list.	13	Gadsden, this school district.
14	Additionally, as I was coming here today,	14	Why it's important, too, we have we're
15	a story on National Public Radio talked about	15	going to see in action something that we read in
16	language learning, and emphasized that there is a	16	books, so I give you a perspective, 90/10 model,
17	great demand for not only employees who are	17	where a student never had an opportunity to see in
18	bilingual and multi-lingual in almost every sector	18	action. [Unintelligible] and the power is one of
19	of the workforce.	19	the [unintelligible] programs is that
20	So I respectfully request that you approve	20	[unintelligible] multicultural perspective. And
21	the creation of this school. Not only will they be	21	through this experience in the classroom, Raíces del
22	teaching will they be teaching our future to be	22	Saber Community School, they are going to be able to
23	proud of their culture and their language,	23	observe culturally and [unintelligible] in action.
24	especially in this region; but they will be giving	24	Thank you.
25	them the foundation and skills to be entrepreneurs,	25	THE CHAIR: Next is Thomas Valenzuela.
	Page 35		Page 37
1	public leaders, educators, doctors, or anything that	1	FROM THE FLOOR: Good afternoon. My name
2	they desire to be.	2	is Thomas Valenzuela. I am here representing the
3	We should not deny our youth this chance,	3	Piro-Mansa-Tiwa Tribe. We are here in support of
4	and your approval today will open that door and	4	
5	create a path to success that every child in		the Xinachtli school.
6		5	the Xinachtli school. First off. I would like to say, as a
	· ·	5	First off, I would like to say, as a
7	New Mexico deserves.	6	First off, I would like to say, as a student in the Las Cruces Public Schools District, I
	New Mexico deserves. I thank you for your consideration.		First off, I would like to say, as a student in the Las Cruces Public Schools District, I was always discouraged from learning about Native
7 8 9	New Mexico deserves.	6 7	First off, I would like to say, as a student in the Las Cruces Public Schools District, I was always discouraged from learning about Native American culture from textbooks because I never felt
8	New Mexico deserves. I thank you for your consideration. THE CHAIR: Thank you. Next is Diane Duran.	6 7 8	First off, I would like to say, as a student in the Las Cruces Public Schools District, I was always discouraged from learning about Native American culture from textbooks because I never felt that it's truly depicted, our culture and our
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11 (Pages 38 to 41)

	Page 38		Page 40
1	And I also have a petition in support of Xinachtli	1	I'm here in total support of this project.
2	School signed by members of my tribal council.	2	I have a lot of faith and hope that you will
3	THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.	3	consider it, because we have so many kids in this
4	FROM THE FLOOR: Thank you.	4	area that need to be developed in that sense, that
5	THE CHAIR: Next is Ray Reich. I believe	5	need to have the opportunity to grow and to excel
6	it's	6	not only in English, but in Spanish, in
7	FROM THE FLOOR: Chair, Commissioners, my	7	understanding and having a clear basis of their
8	name is Ray Reich, R-E-I-C-H. Thank you for letting	8	culture their culture and their roots, where they
9	me speak today. I would be remiss if I didn't come	9	come from and what they stand for.
10	up and say something.	10	Thank you.
11	I have known Mr. Aceves for almost	11	THE CHAIR: Thank you. And, finally,
12	25 years. And during the six years that he was at	12	Maria Flores.
13	Canutillo Elementary, I was invited to observe his	13	FROM THE FLOOR: (With aid of
14	teaching methods on various occasions.	14	Interpreter.)
15	And I saw children from first through	15	Hi. Good afternoon. My name is Maria
16	fifth grade that had that knew who they were,	16	Flores. And we do many things that I am in life. I
17	that felt happy to be speaking and understanding. I	17	am the mother of three boys. Two of them are in
18	saw second-graders that knew algebra and fractions,	18	Arrowhead right now, and one of them is about to
19	the universe, astrology. They were ecstatic.	19	start, hopefully, in this new project.
20	I saw Anglo, white kids, that spoke	20	And the reason that I support 100 percent
21	beautiful Spanish and were happy to be bilingual and	21	this project is because of the language. And for
22	trilingual, singing in Nawa.	22	little kids, the transition from home to school
23	I did this over the six years. And that	23	sometimes is a real huge change. But with a school
24	school thrived. It went from the lowest in the	24	like this, when the kids go to school, and they live
25	state to one of the highest during that period.	25	the language they're speaking at home, they feel

	Page 39		Page 41
1	So thank you very much. I do approve of	1	more comfortable. They feel confident.
2	this.	2	So the change is not drastic. They do the
3	THE CHAIR: Thank you.	3	transition real good, smoothly. And that will
4	Next is Olga Morales.	4	contribute to have better students, better kids, and
5	FROM THE FLOOR: Good afternoon, Madam	5	probably, in the future, better human beings for
6	Chair, members of the Commission. My name is Olga	6	this world.
7	Morales. Morales.	7	Thank you.
8	I'm here to speak to you to address you as	8	THE CHAIR: Thank you. And that concludes
9	a parent, a parent of kids who have had the	9	the public comments. So I thank all of you and
10	opportunity to attend both charter schools and	10	appreciate your comments. And I'm going to ask you
11	public schools and who has experienced firsthand the	11	to indulge us in a 10-minute break before we start
12	unfortunate deficiency on some of the systems.	12	the dig-in.
13	My oldest one attended public school.	13	Thank you.
14	She's now 24 years old. She's still making up	14	(Recess taken, 2:09 p.m. to 2:19 p.m.)
15	deficiencies from what she lacked during the public	15	THE CHAIR: So we obviously moved the
16	school years.	16	podium. And the mic is there. And I just think
17	I have the other one, who's a 17-year-old,	17	that it will be a little bit easier so that you
18	and she just graduated with an Associate's degree	18	don't have to get up and down. You can just pass
19	from Arrowhead, after attending La Academia Middle	19	the mic around and whoever wants to speak.
20	School.	20	The only thing I will ask, as much as we
21	The level of advancement, the level of	21	appreciate input, I think the part that was
22	focus, the level of integrity, the fact that it's	22	frustrating yesterday, we had too many lawyers. And
23	focused on developing the identity of the students	23	everyone thought they were making a closing
24	is so critical, and it carries and it translates and	24	statement every time they were coming up to answer.
25	it moves on through years as they develop.	25	So it the answers were incredibly

12 (Pages 42 to 45)

			12 (1 ages +2 to +3)
	Page 42		Page 44
1	lengthy. So as you know, if we can be reasonably	1	school, or do they already exist?
2	concise with this, I think we'd appreciate it.	2	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: We've already started
3	And I'm just trying to open up the	3	developing, and they already they already exist.
4	application for myself.	4	THE CHAIR: They already exist. Okay.
5	So and I always, with this sometimes	5	And I guess along with that, the
6	I think people feel that we're pointing fingers and	6	Meso-American base the 20 mathematic system, is
7	we're only picking out negatives. And I don't want	7	that aligned with New Mexico standards?
8	you to think that this is going any one way or the	8	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: Yes, it is.
9	other.	9	THE CHAIR: Yeah. Okay.
10	But oftentimes, there's just maybe holes	10	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: Yes, it is.
11	that we see that we need filled in so that we can	11	THE CHAIR: All right. I thought I saw
12	make a better decision at the end of August. So	12	that someplace else; but I just wanted to make sure.
13	it's never meant to come off as a, "Why are you	13	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: All our curriculum is
14	doing this?"	14	aligned to the Common Core and the State standards.
15	So I'll start with a couple of questions.	15	THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. And I guess
16	I'll pass it on in a minute. I think you probably	16	I'll open Pandora's Box with this one at this point
17	will have a bunch of questions.	17	in time.
18	I'm going to ask about the about the	18	You mentioned that you're anticipating to
19	program, your educational program, in particular;	19	have a safe open space, the facility on Lohman. So
20	because there was a mention in the application that	20	let's just have a little bit of a discussion about
21	it had been used in both Phoenix and El Paso. But	21	the facility on Lohman when we're looking at "safe
22	it there I think it indicated that it's no	22	open space." It's kind of
23	longer being implemented there; am I correct?	23	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Yes, I
24	It looked like, from what I read, that	24	[unintelligible] that question. I was coordinating
25	the that it had been about 2012, it's not	25	that process. Lucia Carmona.
	Page 43		Page 45
1	being used anymore.	1	And for the founders. And we put
2	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: Yes. I think you're	$\begin{vmatrix} 1\\2 \end{vmatrix}$	together a committee to identify. So there at
3	referring to the ten-and-a-half-year project that	$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 3 \end{vmatrix}$	Lohman used to be a charter school, Las Montañas.
	resenting to the ten-anti-a-nan-year project that		Lonnan used to be a charter school, Las Montallas.

4 was at Canutillo Elementary. Yes. It was Canutillo

- 5 Elementary. It was started by myself in 1996. And 6 in 2012, it was discontinued.
- 6 in 2012, it was discontinued.
 7 The Xinachtli Project is something that we
- 8 started at a meeting in 1990 in Phoenix, Arizona.
- 9 And from there, it's grown -- it grew into the
- 10 Meso-American Studies Program implemented in Tucson,
- 11 the one that was made illegal by the State of
- 12 Arizona. And it's currently also being used at the
- 13 Semillas del Pueblo Charter School in East
- 14 Los Angeles. And it was also implemented in
- Canutillo Elementary.
 In fact, there are two
- 16 In fact, there are two of the teachers17 that were part of the Xinachtli Project with me are
- here today: Ms. Sainz and Mrs. Garcia. And, you
- 19 know, they were part of the team. We've traveled to
- 20 Mexico together for 20 days. That's the
- 21 clarification you needed?
- 22 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.
- 23 And with the rubrics of assessment, I just
- have a question of are those rubrics of assessment,
- are they going to be developed from within the

- 4 Right now, it's partial occupied by another company. 5 The property start to be sell in pieces and still 6 remains a place, an area, when we talk with the --7 the agent, that is still available, and it even has 8 E-Occupancy, certified. 9 So that -- for the signing year, which we 10 expect to enroll 60 students, and even it has the 11 capacity for 100 students right now at the facility. 12 Our expecting -- by the fifth year, we expect to 13 have the whole enrollment of 220 students. 14 Since our first -- I mean, our dream, 15 expectation, is the collaboration with NMSU. And we 16 hosted there at the Myrna's Children's Village 17 place, it's going to take a couple of years to 18 develop and to be sure. The only thing we need is
- the approval notice from the College of Ed to moveforward into [unintelligible] and start to -- that
- forward into [unintelligible] and start to -- that
 is the process internally for the University, which
- is understandable.
- And for that lease, right now, we -- we
 have the approval. That -- that location will allow
 us to not expend too much funds or resources in

13 (Pages 46 to 49)

			15 (1 ages +0 to +))
	Page 46		Page 48
1	efforts to be ready to start by next year. So that	1	who have indicated that they will serve on the
2	is one of the options; however, we have another	2	board. And then we have added to that Dr. Luis
3	couple.	3	Huerta and Dr. Roc about to be "Dr."
4	THE CHAIR: Okay. So along with that, I	4	Dr. Rocio Benedicto.
5	have because in the presentation, you mentioned	5	And all of those I'm going to say we
6	the \$200,000 I think it was \$200,000 from the	6	have to have seven. Our ideal is to have 11. And
7	Raza group.	7	we will continue to do ongoing recruitment. Among
8	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Yes.	8	
9		9	all those people, we have tremendous skills in terms
10	THE CHAIR: I just had a question. What	10	of the knowledge and background, not only
10	are you anticipating doing with that \$200,000?	10	experientially in terms of education credentials in
	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Oh, well, the Raza		bilingualism, bicultural education, we have a board
12	fund, as well as our foundations, they have, like,	12	member who has extensive background in board
13	a the level of funds that we will be available	13	development.
14	to to access, which so that's why we believe	14	We have a board member who has extensive
15	that even if if that location, during the	15	experience in finance and business. We have a
16	planning year, may not be the best, we still have	16	person who has extensive experience of having
17	enough funds to to identify the other alternative	17	started a successful charter school. She's now
18	places that we already identified may need more	18	retired.
19	funds, may need more resources. But we still have	19	Most of the people on the board have
20	that range of amount available.	20	children that are now grown. But we also yeah.
21	THE CHAIR: So the two I'm sorry. I	21	Hold that for me, Roseanne.
22	just need clarification on this. The \$200,000 from	22	We also have Monika Tellez. And she has
23	the Raza group, is that going to the facility on	23	children in school currently. She is bilingual.
24	Lohman? Is it going are you looking at	24	She's Hispanic. She is very, very hungry for her
25	earmarking that and who would own the facility,	25	children to have this opportunity. And she is a
	Page 47		Page 49
1	Page 47	1	Page 49
1	then, on NMSU?	1	person who came here, who immigrated here, became a
2	then, on NMSU? DR. NICHOLAS NATIVIDAD: So the facility	2	person who came here, who immigrated here, became a citizen, and struggled mightily to get her
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14 (Pages 50 to 53)

	Page 50		Page 52
1	We have talked to some people already at	1	you have people who've actually had to do that.
2	networks people who are a part of networks of	2	Because it's very easy to say, "We'll cut back," you
3	accountants and lawyers, and they have said that if	3	know if you lose \$100,000, because you don't have
4	our charter is approved, that they would help us	4	the students, "Well, we'll cut back."
5	identify people with those skills to commit to the	5	Well, doing it is a lot tougher than
6	board.	6	saying it. I think that's where I think a lot of
7	So our ideal is to ramp up to 11.	7	schools have problems financially. And we have to
8	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: And the reason I	8	realize that the purpose of the school is actually
9	ask I mean, you listed many subcommittees. And I	9	for the students and everything.
10	think one of the things that I see, in my brief time	10	Just one other thing to follow up on this.
11	on the Commission but I think the Commissioners	11	In the presentation, you had mentioned there had
12	would back this up is maintaining the consistency	12	been about 330 parents that had attended about
13	on the board is so important to a success of any	13	29 events. Was that 330 individual different
14	charter school.	14	parents? Or were they double-counting in some
15	When you have a large number of general	15	cases? I wasn't I'm a numbers person myself. So
16	council members, and they're turning over regularly,	16	I always want to know, if 29 events if you had 12
17	maybe you have three or four that have been there	17	or 13 of the same parents at every event, you could
18	for three or four years, and then they turn over.	18	come up with that 330.
19	When you have a small number that actually have	19	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Yeah. We mentioned
20	consistency, it really creates problems in	20	29 events, even maybe more. But the when we met
21	supporting the school in the ongoing support within	21	with the community-at-large, and we asked them to
22	the community.	22 23	identify as parents myself, Im a parent, and Im
23	The other thing is, and you mentioned this	23	a grandmother, also.
24 25	in terms of individuals with accounting and finance experience background, whether they have a degree or	24 25	And usually, when we when we qualify ourselves as a kind like or somewhere, or we
25	experience background, whether they have a degree of	25	ourserves as a kind fike or somewhere, or we
	Page 51		Page 53
1	Page 51 not, I was on the APS board for four years. I was	1	Page 53 have a session where we see teachers. "How many of
1 2	-	1 2	have a session where we see teachers. "How many of you are parents? What ages? If we have this
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	not, I was on the APS board for four years. I was the only person there who really had a finance or accounting background. I have an MBA in Finance. I hire accountants; I don't do accounting. But it's so important, because that's where we see and you mentioned this in your presentation where a lot of the problems in the smaller charters in those first couple of years, it's so important, because that's where mistakes get made. And that's so important, because you're using public funds. And I am very, very conscientious about being on top of those funds, because they are the public's dollars, and we're stewards of those dollars, and you'll be stewards of the dollars, also. So pursuing and actually having active individuals from the accounting profession or people who have strong business and operation-type	$ \begin{array}{c} 2\\ 3\\ 4\\ 5\\ 6\\ 7\\ 8\\ 9\\ 10\\ 11\\ 12\\ 13\\ 14\\ 15\\ 16\\ 17\\ 18\\ 19\\ 20\\ \end{array} $	have a session where we see teachers. "How many of you are parents? What ages? If we have this school, will you come to this kind of school?" So that is where we start to come in different throughout the region, when we have these presentations and conferences. Actually, we did this at the University, made a call for over 150 people come. Of course, students, parents come, community-at-large. When we developed the specific workshops with parents, I would say that's why parents come and excited to be here and to collect, for instance, signatures, because most of them [unintelligible] one day they cannot be here. So that would be, I would say, and take credit that those numbers are not repeating the same person here and there, that it's [unintelligible]. COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Thank you. THE CHAIR: And I'll also back up what
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			15 (Pages 54 to 57
	Page 54		Page 56
1	"We're going to fluctuate between 9 and 11," because	1	that's being proposed in Borderlands and Ethnic
2	it just becomes very challenging for us and the CSD	2	Studies. It's being [unintelligible] as a
3	staff to be able to keep track of, you know, who do	3	rehumanization curriculum, exactly what you're
4	you communicate with, what's going on there.	4	saying, college-level, to train future teachers that
5	And it's it's difficult for us	5	can implement this alongside the actual practice of
6	DR. JANE ASHE: Our understanding was	6	this.
7	whenever you lose a board member, you have 45 days	7	THE CHAIR: Thank you. And while we're on
8	to replace them, and it is our obligation to be in	8	the topic of the University, if we go back to the
9	touch with the PEC and the PED about that. And,	9	history of why charters were created, they were
10	also, we our governance development board our	10	supposed to be the laboratories to show innovative
11	governance board development committee is charged	11	practices to traditional schools.
12	with doing ongoing recruitment, so that you have a	12	And you mentioned it. In the slide
13	list of people waiting in the wings who are willing	13	presentation, you mentioned that partnership with
14	and able and interested in serving as number one,	14	NMSU. So is this something that you're looking at,
15	as a new group, we try to build that board and have	15	that students from NMSU that are in the Ed
16	more expertise, as you were speaking, but also to	16	Department or maybe sociology or whatever would be
17	make sure that we have somebody ready to take the	17	able to come in and do practice teaching, practice
18	place of anybody who might have to resign	18	lessons?
19	unexpectedly or also is terming out.	19	DR. NICHOLAS NATIVIDAD: So in terms of
20	THE CHAIR: I love the glass-is-half-full	20	the affiliation, absolutely. And not even just so
21	people. And if you can actually get that to work	21	the practice of the type of curriculum, right, for
22	well, we're going to have [unintelligible]. Because	22	future teachers, but also in terms of research and
23	it's everyone wants to do that. And it is	23	evaluation of best practices. So I think that's
24	absolutely one of the most challenging things is to	24	important.
25	keep that effective board and keep the board full;	25	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: May I say something
	Page 55		Page 57
1	because as you know, through this time that you've	1	else important about the relationship that we also
2	been in, it doesn't get easier. It just simply	2	develop with other [unintelligible], other
3	keeps getting harder. And the amount of time.	3	departments. Like agricultural department, they are
4	And I appreciate everyone's time that they	4	really interested in the philosophy of cultivating
5	do put into it. And now that I'm into my	5	organic and the sustainable and those terms, and
6	appreciation phase, I'm going to say I absolutely	6	related to the to the to food.
7	appreciate every piece of this application. And	7	And also the the social work
	TT	1	

- 8 through the other websites that I did look at, the
- 9 indigenous cultures website and a number of others,
- 10 when I was looking at the program and incorporating
- 11 social justice into the fabric of our educational
- 12 system, it is unfortunately too late for many of the
- 13 horrific circumstances that have occurred throughout
- 14 the past couple of years. And it is imperative that
- 15 we take ownership of dealing with this and starting
- 16 at a -- as early as we can in developing empathetic 17 individuals for our society. 18 So I absolutely applaud you for that. 19 And I'm also a humanities person. So 20 it's -- it's a fabric of what I did. 21 DR. NICHOLAS NATIVIDAD: Can I just say
- 22 something to that point? New Mexico State 23 University, exactly what you're saying, social
- 24 justice imperative specifically for this region. So
- 25 dovetailing these efforts, there's also a program

- department, the anthropology department. So all of them look at us as a lab space, where the students
- 10 and even exchanging that -- those resources through
- 11 internship programs and have this opportunity
- 12 organically. 13 DR. LUIS HUERTA: Something that I want to 14 mention, that I say quickly in the other --
- 15 THE CHAIR: I'm sorry. Could you identify 16 yourself.
- 17 DR. LUIS HUERTA: I'm sorry. Luis Huerta. 18 I'm an Associate Professor in the College of 19 Education. And something that I mentioned 20 previously is that the -- something that we used to 21 call the on-site partnership that we have with the 22 school districts in the area allow us to have, for a 23 student, each educational student in the classroom 24 with a teacher for a specific amount of time, like 25
 - two-and-a-half hours per day every week for two

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16 (Pages 58 to 61)

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partnership that we have, being part of this
network, the NACA Inspired Schools Network, will

12 provide us with the strength in terms of funds.

- Also, with the University, the partnership
 with the University in terms of the [unintelligible]
 analyzing. But in-house, we will have that capacity
 with funds and with people that are related -- the
 people that is in charge of that.
- THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. I'm going
 to say that I think targeting for 60 students could
 be high, for your first year. So I would -- you
 know, I would just say that I would just be careful
- 22 with that, as you're going through. We always find
- that, you know, even when communities are very muchin support, when it comes down to putting my child
- 25 into a brand new school, there's often that

acquiring Spanish, Spanish learner acquiring English.

system in kindergarten is quite a rigorous endeavor.

And my experience has shown that in kindergarten,

using simple manipulatives to do computation. Ive

seen that over and over in my years of experience.

The -- the goal of biliteracy is quite a

rigorous goal, in that we have to see students grow

[unintelligible] seeing the students are learning to

use -- to acquire a second language, English learner

each year in their biliteracy. And we sit down

That, for example, is a goal that is rigorous, and

when a student enters kindergarten, he will be

able -- or she will be able -- to use a Base 20

And so bilingualism is a rigor endeavor,

it's also quite attainable.

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17 (Pages 62 to 65)

			17 (Pages 62 to 65)
_	Page 62		Page 64
1	and it's a goal that is attainable and reasonable.	1	THE CHAIR: Sorry. Sorry. Do you have an
2	I don't know what else	2	identified head administrator now?
3	THE CHAIR: And I apologize, because I put	3	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Head administrator?
4	a page number down in the application, and it's not	4	You say "head administrator"?
5	matching with what I'm what I'm now pulling up.	5	THE CHAIR: Some call it head
6	So I know one of them mentioned being able to	6	administrator; some refer to it as principal. It's
7	read a paragraph at so and my page number is	7	whatever.
8	just I thought I was being so good, and it's not	8	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: We have already had
9	the right page.	9	well, we already have some candidates in mind. And
10	It's the application it's the	10	we, of course, have to go with the transparent and
11	application and not the analysis. And I had put	11	fair procedures for hiring process, but then proceed
12	and that's what I have up here. And I had made a	12	with very well-qualified persons that will fill that
13	notation of Page 22. But it's not on Page 22.	13	role.
14	MS. POULOS: (Indicates.)	14	Business manager position, our favorite
15	THE CHAIR: Because that's the that's	15	candidate, she has ten years' experience being the
16	the all right. I'll have to move on because I	16	business manager for Academia, also for the right
17	just can't find it. So we're and I appreciate	17	now, we're Alma d'Arte, zero findings for the
18	what you said, of course. If the if you are	18	last several years, which is exceptional. Her
19	successful, we would sit down and negotiate those	19	ways she perform her ways of [unintelligible].
20	goals.	20	She's one of our cofounders and also one of our
21	But I you know, I wrote that question	21	supporters on this process to write that financial
22	for myself. And, obviously, I put the wrong page	22	procedures and provide all guidance on those lines.
23	number. So I apologize.	23	THE CHAIR: Okay.
24	You did mention that you were going to	24	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: But it's the same
25	contract with a diagnostician for special ed	25	going through a transparent hiring process.
	Page 63		Page 65
1	services. Do you know do you have a contact with	1	THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. And I don't
2	someone now? Or is that do you think that's	2	think I got the full answer in terms of the grant
3	going to be through LCPS, or because we find that	3	monies and how they're being used.
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4	it's that schools have difficulty in getting
5	those contracts.
6	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Yes. What we
7	course, we spoke already with a lot of teachers,
8	people that are interested in this and have

9 different capacities and backgrounds. And everybody

10 is, like, contingent on approval, of course, like

11 everything; right? 12 And people who are in their job right now, 13 there's people that they said, "I'm trying to -- I 14 like your project."

15 But the partnership that we're looking at 16 with the conversations that we've had with the 17 Las Cruces Public Schools goes in those lines, also,

- 18 to share [unintelligible] support each other in 19
- ways, take time to [unintelligible] that line of 20 communication and sharing experience and support.
- 21
- So that would be [unintelligible]. 22 THE CHAIR: All right. And I'll just do
- 23 one more. Do you have an identified head
- 24 administrator now?
- 25 VARIOUS SPEAKERS: We can't hear you.

So are some of -- are some of them -- will some of them be used for the -- hopefully, the next year, and then will any of those funds go into help support any staffing for that first school year?

8 MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Yes. And also we 9 mentioned Kellogg Foundation, personal, Kellogg 10 Fellow. And we really develop a great relationship 11 as a fellow with the Foundation and had these 12 conversations about this project that they really --13

[unintelligible] support hoping to have this approval.

15 And those funds are to support precisely 16 the first year, and also the planning year of 17 operations. And, like I said, being part of this 18 NACA Inspired Schools Network will be able to get 19 those funds. 20 THE CHAIR: So the first year of your

21 operation, would you be using any grant money to 22 fund staffing?

- 23 MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Yes. We -- we need to
- 24 see, once we have the -- I mean, everything in
- 25 place. Of course, we will be able to -- depending

18 (Pages 66 to 69)

-		-	18 (Pages 66 to 69)
	Page 66		Page 68
1	the needs, for instance, ancillary staff, part-time	1	very important.
2	staff. Could be that that situation can	2	So I need somebody you're holding the
3	THE CHAIR: Because the challenge, of	3	microphone, sir.
4	course, is if that grant money is just for a year,	4	DR. NICHOLAS NATIVIDAD: So I'll go first.
5	and you've relied on this staffing pattern for this	5	So we've been in conversation for almost over two
6	year, and then it goes away, it can certainly	6	years now regarding this. And so you were talking
7	adversely affect that	7	about, "What is the commitment?"
8	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Yes.	8	I'm actually not in the College of
9	THE CHAIR: your educational program.	9	Education. I'm a professor in the Department of
10	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Uh-huh.	10	Criminal Justice. I was telling Commissioner
11	THE CHAIR: So that's what I'm trying to	11	Robbins this. And the reason why I get involved in
12	see, how much are you.	12	a lot of the educational programs is that when you
13	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: And the Kellogg	13	look at the school-prison pipeline, a lot of
14	Foundation and the McCune Foundation. The McCune	14	criminal justice professors, sociologists are
15	Foundation is a New Mexican foundation, where it's	15	starting to now look at let's look at the school
16	smaller, and they provide smaller support. But then	16	first, before getting into the prison system.
17	those are general funds that we can use.	17	That's where we need to create innovation, right, at
18	DR. JANE ASHE: It's not unusual for the	18	a different level.
19	McCune Foundation, when they are helping seed	19	And so a lot of the scholarship coming out
20	something that they think is innovative, to fund for	20	now is talking about identity formation as a key
21	several years in a row. And that is what we would	21	aspect; right? This rehumanization; right? So it's
22	expect.	22	not just the College of Ed that has this level of
23	Kellogg Foundation has made the statement	23	commitment. There's also my colleagues in criminal
24	many times, many places, that they plan to be here	24	justice and sociology and that are looking to
25	for a generation, because they realize that the kind	25	support something like this.
	Page 67		Page 69
1	of change, social change they're trying to promote,	1	Now, when we're talking about long-term or
2	takes that long.	2	the type of infrastructure being built at NMSU, not
3	So I we could I think we could	3	only are we proposing that a brand new ethnic
4	easily plan on those grants being multi-year.	4	studies minor, major, and eventually a master's
5	And I'm very familiar with the Kellogg	5	degree, which would also have embedded in it a
6	Foundation as a University faculty member. I lived	6	teacher's certificate at the master's level, that's
7	on Kellogg funds in a very special unit in the	7	going up for proposal this fall.
8	College of Education. But and, again, they stay	8	It's already been written by Dr. Luis
9	for many years to get an innovation off the ground.	9	Huerta and myself.
10	So I think those are very substantial,	10	The other thing we're doing is launching a

11 dependable funds. And they're very flexible. The

	dependable funds. And they revery flexible. The
12	Kellogg, for instance, would not fund
13	infrastructure; but that is something that the Raza
14	Fund, as you heard Nicholas say
15	THE CHAIR: Commissioners?
16	COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: I have a question.
17	THE CHAIR: Sure.
18	COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: I have to get a
19	microphone.
20	It's very interesting to me the
21	relationship between did I hear talk spoken about

- 22 between NMSU and the school? I would like to hear
- from the professors who are present from NMSU,
- really, the amount of this commitment and the
- 25 passion to this commitment, because I think it's

- center for community engagement, which would be 11 12 focused on tracking volunteer hours for students, 13 but also placing students in innovative internships 14 and with organizations like Raíces. So that's brand 15 new, up-and-coming as well. That's part of the 16 service learning initiative that we're trying to 17 launch. That's across colleges. 18 There's a deep communion, not just in 19 terms of the academic side, research, but also the
- 20 infrastructure at NMSU. That is the opportunity to
 21 push forward in the infrastructure, too.
 22 MS. LUCIA CARMONA: You would see at least
- 23 four teachers at NMSU support.
- 24 DR. LUIS HUERTA: I want to mention, the
- 25 personal level. My commitment is too high. I can

19 (Pages 70 to 73)

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	Page 70		Page 72
1	say that.	1	teachers, how to teach to have that kind of ethical,
2	But why? Because I've been always, since	2	political commitment with the students that are
3	2003, that I go into NMSU as a faculty member, we	3	bilingual, diverse, trying to give them the
4	have been looking for ways of improving integration	4	opportunity to receive a quality education in all
5	of teaching. But we are not thinking of using	5	levels.
6	Borderlands, something that we think in division of	6	So my communication focused on the Nawa.
7	the countries, or we are thinking in terms of	7	That was the strong connection that I felt with this
8	where different cultures, different languages get	8	project. And you do ask how what is my
9	together, and in contact with different backgrounds	9	commitment? My commitment with that is full, if I
10	ethnically, linguistically speaking, everything.	10	can say that.
11	So we have been promoting that kind of	11	COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: I can tell, sir,
12	approach connected with social justice since 2003.	12	between both of you. And just to clarify why I
13	I mentioned a phrase that I was not one of	13	asked, is my perception, very limited perception,
13	the founders of the phrase, 2007, original	14	from reading the application, from looking at the
15	[unintelligible] that NMSU or the College of	15	summaries, we have a group of people maybe
16	Education has with Hermosa High in the Las Cruces	16	they're all humanities teachers like we are.
17	district, because we established a partnership with	17	And data is really, really and
17	a teacher to see [unintelligible] to see what is the	18	understanding of how to appropriately conduct the
18		19	research and the data acquisition so that we can
20	[unintelligible] of the practice with the bilingual	20	
20	kids [unintelligible] meets.	20	present that data to the Public Education Department and the Commission and the taxpayers that what we
21	For example, we established the the	21	are doing with this methodology is really paying
22	partnership in the school that was mainly something that we used to call the "barrio" school, that was	22	
23 24		23	off. And they look at that data. And I see from the University, in my
24 25	any kid from Hispanic heritage, almost 95 percent of	24	perception, that that would be a great support in
23	the kids speaking Spanish, and we started the	25	perception, that that would be a great support in
	Page 71		Page 73
1	practice there, always with the focus of social	1	your leadership and training of all these humanities
2	justice, working with [unintelligible] perspective,	2	teachers who have come together with this social
3	[unintelligible] and the whole notion of seeing the	3	justice drive, this quality drive, this equity,
4	kids [unintelligible] personal connection with the	4	looking at Borderlands as being that's a
5	family.	5	beautiful concept. I hadn't thought of it that way,
6	And you can see, for example, in my	6	that depth that you had of the Borderlands within
7	research, my publications, that all the time, I am	7	our Borderlands.
8	promoting the view of social justice in educational	8	And the justice part of it, and working
9	teaching, the importance, specifically these times	9	with students who I'm glad to see that. And I'm
10	that we're seeing, not just for what's happening in	10	coming up with juvenile justice, because that's my
10	the school, but how the students have been exposed	11	experience, and the way those would work together to
11	to a kind of historical inertia through the years	12	help these folks to guide them to gather important
12	that [unintelligible] to see the reality coming to	13	data.
13		13	There's a lot of data out there. And
14	us. And, in my communication, always promoting	14	that's where I would see the University support
15	this, finding the connection with Raíces came	16	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
17	very how can I say? casual, because I	17	coming in to provide that guidance. So that's why I was asking about commitment, because they may have
	•	18	
18 19	wasn't I mean, multicultural community perspective, meaning.	18	to ask you lots of questions about what to gather and how to do it.
20	Then Lucia came and presented to the	20	
20 21	-	20 21	Thank you.
21 22	school the program they were using. And I fell in	$\begin{array}{c} 21\\ 22\end{array}$	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: [Unintelligible] on
22	love with that. And then I asked her if I can help	22 23	the application about nonprofit sector from the
23 24	in any way. And even my incoming publication for example, [unintelligible]. And I am connecting that	23	nonprofit sector, where some of them also are in partnership with NMSU. And there's a huge number
	notion with the [unintelligible] propagation of the	25	that we are not reinventing anything have Wa're
25	notion with the [unintelligible] preparation of the	25	that we are not reinventing anything here. We're

20 (Pages 74 to 77)

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	Page 74		Page 76
1	just a part of that natural organic number of	1	with our indigenous local folks.
2	support.	2	Just like I see here where you have a
3	And the data concept, of course, is there.	3	section where you say, "Stories of origin or
4	And it's part of the success partnership in	4	formation. Oral storytelling of myths and legends
5	Las Cruces, educational success project that is	5	are going to be taught three days a week. The
6	involving other organizations, we also have a formal	6	students will listen to the teacher conduct an oral
7	contract with NMSU to organize precise data. And	7	telling of a Meso-American or indigenous myth and
8	those are the resources that we have.	8	legend."
9	COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON: Thank you.	9	How are you going to make sure that for
10	THE CHAIR: Commissioner Toulouse?	10	the people who still don't see those as myths and
11	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: Can you hear me?	11	legends, which your indigenous people who it's still
12	VARIOUS SPEAKERS: Yes.	12	their belief are going to have that discussion, it's
13	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: This concept	13	a belief, the way I've seen it done in some of the
14	interests me a lot. My background is 30 years in	14	Navajo programs, so that you are still taught that
15	human services. Also my background is anthropology.	15	that is your belief, and it's acceptable to do it
16	I worked with the Navajo Tribe. I've worked with	16	rather than a myth or a legend?
17	the pueblos. My family is 300 years in New Mexico;	17	So I want to know how you're going to work
18	so I'm related to half of Northern New Mexico, not	18	that in, along with where the Meso-American I
19	as many down here.	19	honestly don't see how Nawa applies to many people
20	And so I look at this cultural deal, and I	20	up here. We have many languages that do.
21	have but I have a couple of questions. But to	21	But I like the concept of the program. I
22	get there, you know, in our country today, where	22	like the Meso-American map. When I was a kid, I
23	we're in one of our extremely egregious periods of	23	loved maps to different places. I think kids' minds
24	trying to erase multiculturalism and yet that's	24	expand to that and expand to other things.
25	what made this country strong. So I am very much in	25	But I just think, since you have your

	Page 75		Page 77
1	favor of teaching multicultural history to our	1	indigenous communities you've spoken of, how are you
2	children.	2	going to deal with them as well as these other
3	I grew up at Jemez Pueblo and the Navajo	3	concepts?
4	Reservation, in Northern New Mexico villages as well	4	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: Well, first of all,
5	as with my family in Albuquerque. My dad would say,	5	let me explain that Nawa is actually a family of
6	"Well, these are cousins, primos and primas."	6	languages.
7	I said, "Okay."	7	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: Sir, I'm aware of
8	And you were never quite sure how the	8	that part. And I know that languages here are
9	biological connection was, or if it was really	9	related, but not closely. There have been several
10	there, or if it was just strong friendships. That's	10	thousand or more (inaudible).
11	what I liked about New Mexico culture, and it cut	11	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: Clearly, when we chose
12	across ethnic divides.	12	Nawa, we were thinking of the fact that our school
13	But saying that, I think that this part of	13	will be a large number of Mexican-Americans, and
14	the state, the Native indigenous population has been	14	that is our heritage culture.
15	egregiously ignored. I knew a little bit, but I	15	But as the wording says, not only stories
16	didn't know a lot until I got into college about the	16	of origin of Meso-America, but indigenous stories.
17	native populations that were here. I knew they were	17	So we, as part of our plan, is to work directly with
18	here. I knew the history of them getting here or	18	local indigenous groups, like the Piro-Manso-Tiwa
19	being here, but I didn't know that they were still	19	tribe, so that some of the stories that we learn in
20	strong.	20	our lessons will not be just Meso-American. It will
21	And I like this school because it looks at	21	be indigenous Piro or Manso or Tiwa.
22	that. But because of that and I'm getting to the	22	We have one of our supporters I don't
23	question I understand how the Meso-American and	23	know if he's still here he's still here Peter
24	Nawa language works with people whose families are	24	Garcia. He's Hopi. And he's been a friend of mine
25	out of Mexico. I don't know how that works as well	25	for 20 years. And he is here because he wants to be
		1	

			21 (Pages 78 to 81)
	Page 78		Page 80
1	part of the process. And, you know, he'll be there	1	this is what we believe to be our our origin
2	talking about the Hopi story and stories of origin.	2	story."
3	So the fact that we are Nawa-based doesn't	3	It will be part of the dialogue in the
4	mean that we are exclusively Nawa. The Nawa is an	4	Xinachtli process, that the children understand that
5	opening for an invitation for the local population,	5	there are beliefs, as well as [unintelligible], and
6	Mexico-American population, to open up to the idea	6	that people within a community have different
7	of indiginating, that we have ties to to indigenous	7	beliefs. Not only do we want our children to be
8	groups across this state and, indeed, across the	8	sensitized to the beliefs of the local indigenous
9	United States.	9	communities, we want children to be sensitized to
10	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: Thank you. I	10	the beliefs of all groups within the community.
11	know I wonder, are you again, I think the	11	So that we are free to to have a local
12	question is, because you will have local indigenous	12	Jewish rabbi come and be a presenter to our school.
13	students, are you how are you going to make sure	13	And we're not advocating Jewish religion; but we
14	that you respect their beliefs, as opposed to just	14	will be advocating the children and the parents
15	some of it being treated as a literature or a story?	15	listen to how other people conceive of themselves
16	Because it can be very different when	16	and help them understand their own conceptions of
17	you're talking about your own group rather than	17	themselves.
18	another group. You know, I read the Navajo origin	18	Most Meso-Americans here in this community
19	myth very differently than probably Ms. Bobroff back	19	are Catholic. That doesn't mean we're going to
20	there would read it. And I'm not going to question	20	promote the Catholic religion. But they are
21	her, and she's not going to question me on how we	21	certainly free. For example, in the Tortugas, when
22	read it.	22	every year, they have a three-day Lady of Guadalupe
23	And I just want because you're going to	23	Festival. Beautiful festival. But we can take the
24	pull from that community, and I really appreciate	24	children there to witness this festival. We can
25	you are, how are you going to do that?	25	have people from Tortugas Pueblo come and talk about
	Page 79		Page 81
1	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: Well, say my friend,	1	their festival.
2	Peter Garcia, if he were to come down, which he will	2	And there's really no problem, as long as
3	be part of the lesson and give us one of his	3	we understand that we're not advocating something.
4	stories, he will be quite free to say, "This is my	4	We're just providing a forum for the people to speak
5	belief. To me, this isn't just a story."	5	their own truth.
6	And the children will understand it. He	6	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: And I just want to
7	is coming here with his belief.	7	make a comment. You did a your presentation I
8	When a member of the Piro-Manso-Tiwa Tribe	8	wish you had done more in what you were going to do
9	come and say, "This isn't just a story for us. This	9	with the children. You have a marvelous
10	is our belief," that's you know, that's part of	10	organization. They're all in there put together.
11	what we want.	11	What I come to these hearings for this
12	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: But, you know, as	12	is my sixth year. You're the very last hearing I'm
13	a public entity, we can't really teach religion.	13	doing, and I will be leaving the Commission at the
14	That's why I'm seeing, how can you protect the	14	end of this year, and I've done every single input
15	belief without teaching it as belief? This	15	hearing that we've done except one in six years now.
16	interests me tremendously.	16	I want to hear more of the personal, how are you
17	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: We're not going to	17	going to do this.
18	teach religion. But we have freedom of speech. So	18	We're getting this out here with the
19	our presenter has the freedom of speech to say,	19	questions. I just wish you had used your 20 minutes
20	"This is what I believe."	20	to do at least 10 minutes of that. This is just a
21	And we that's we're not introducing	21	comment that I would like to have heard more that
22	the Meso-American stories as a belief system, but as	22	fleshes out what I read here; because I last
23	stories of origin. But stories from people who come	23	night, when I got home, I read through all of this
24		24	

- 24 so it would be fresh in my mind. 25
 - And this morning, I went through the first

in are presented by members of certain tribes. They

are free within a school district to say "This is --

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22 (Pages 82 to 85)

Page	82
1 uge	02

	Page 82		Page 84
1	part of it again.	1	council.
2	So I know but I I like your ideas.	2	Not always weakness. Sometimes you have
3	I like what you're doing. I won't be on the	3	somebody who's too strong on the governance council.
4	Commission. But in a couple of years, if we give	4	And so I always tell people, you know
5	you the charter in August I don't know what we're	5	and I've been on a lot of boards over time. And
6	going to do; there's all kinds of other pieces of	6	it's hard to serve, absolutely, for no pay at all,
7	this if you do, I'd like to come back and visit	7	trying to get somebody to come into meetings when
8	the school.	8	you've got other things to do and get the right
9	You know, I don't make any promises. We	9	people to do it. I know that. We all are
10	never know how we're going to vote. This is only a	10	tremendously paid. We get per diem and mileage, you
11	part of it. Then there's other reviews. There's	11	know. And I spend hours, because many of the
12	the other input we get that's in writing. There's	12	THE CHAIR: I don't get per diem.
13	all kinds of things that go into us finally making	13	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: many of the
14	that decision in December.	14	charter schools that we oversee happen to be in my
15	These are not quick or easy decisions, but	15	part of Albuquerque. And I'm retired, so I get
16	I appreciate the work you've all done and the	16	phone call after phone call. There are some days I
17	being here; so	17	can spend four or five hours a day dealing with
18	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: Well, we apologize for	18	people. Don't get paid for that.
19	not using our time wisely in 20 minutes.	19	And I want to do this. But it's hard. So
20	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: Yesterday, other	20	I know it's hard to get anybody here who wants to do
21	people had comments about how they used their time,	21	it. And I applaud the fact you're going to try to,
22	too; so	22	you know, have your success plans. I managed to do
23	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: Quickly, one of the	23	that from my position because nobody was in my seat
24	innovations, the way we approach this in our	24	for two years. I got my arm twisted to do it. And
25	school you know, one of the concepts that we	25	I wasn't going to do it for more than two. But I
	Page 83		Page 85
1	teach, beginning in kindergarten, is something that	1	went ahead and did another four, and I've spent the
2	anthropologists, archeologists, and historians tell	2	last year getting someone ready to take my place,
3	us is one of the fundamental building blocks of any	3	because that's important to have your success.
4	civilization. And that's how zero becomes the	4	So I, really a lot of planning has gone
5	number one. That's a concept that kindergarteners	5	into that. And, hopefully, you can avoid the
6	will master.	6	pitfalls. And people might want to study, if you
7	And I bet you that none of us none of	7	get approved, the schools that have closed, to see
8	you or nobody in this room ever remember being	8	why those closed.
9	taught that in elementary school, because we	9	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: I would like to go
10	weren't. We just assumed.	10	into the comment. As part of this network that I
11	THE CHAIR: And I didn't go to	11	when we started, over the almost two years, learning
12	kindergarten; so	12	from our experiences, from painful experiences, and
13	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: We weren't taught	13	when we attended the trainings, and CSD gave us
14	that it was developed here in the New World before	14	tools, was really an open eye for us.
15	the Arabs found it. I had to find that out in	15	That's why we sat back the first year when
16	college.	16	we started to try to submit this application and
17	MR. CARLOS ACEVES: I was going to provide	17	realized that, yes, we have a wonderful, beautiful
18	those types of examples.	18	vision, project, to offer to our communities. And
19	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: I like to provide	19	we have an incredible team engaged already, as you

sat back the first year when ubmit this application and e have a wonderful, beautiful fer to our communities. And we have an incredible team engaged already, as you 20 can see. 21 But then we really want to be sure that

- 22 all these teams were committed for the long-term,
- 23 and identify -- and we have an extended, like we
- 24 call a board of -- advisory board that are there,
- 25 really busy, but really intense people that wants to

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feedback when I can. I am pleased with the level of

again, I repeat what other people have said. Every

school that we've had to close that I have seen fail

or has not opened is because of a weakness in the

governance council or a problem with the governance

development you have for your organization; because,

			23 (Pages 86 to 89)
	Page 86		Page 88
1	be to give their piece of knowledge, their piece	1	THE CHAIR: Thank you. I just have one
2	of commitment and dedication to this project, that	2	one more, and I think we can wrap it up.
3	we have them.	3	We've talked about the grant money. And I
4	And that's why we proceed, we decide to	4	can't I can't tell you how to wisely use your
5	continue, and always telling us, "Oh, my God, this	5	money.
6	is really a great challenge." And, mostly, you have	6	But I would give you a cautionary advice
7	to be [unintelligible] to have a great foundation	7	that we find that the sooner you can get a head
8	and be sure that the board is in compliance with	8	administrator on board to get that school on the
9	everything for the sake and benefit of our children.	9	right path so that if you do have those funds
10	So, definitely, that is part of our	10	available, I think that's, from my perspective, a
11	commitment.	11	really valuable way to allocate some of those
12	DR. JANE ASHE: I just want to, very	12	monies, so that that person has the opportunity to
13	quickly, address your very good question about how	13	be equally invested in your community throughout the
14	are you going to help children feel that indeed you	14	implementation year.
15	are respecting their beliefs, and you are not	15	Because I did notice in the application,
16	dismissing them just as stories, mythical stories.	16	when there was the discussion of hiring the
17	All of us on the team have engaged in	17	principal or head administrator, that your time
18	Xinachtli lessons with Carlos. And we sit in	18	frame went as close to six weeks prior to the
19	dialogue circles just like the children will. And	19	opening of the school year when you've got 15 days
20	it is amazing the methodologies that are used are	20	of PD built into that calendar. So that's an
21	how they promote respectful discussion with one	21	extraordinarily tight time frame to get someone on
22	another and tremendous engagement.	22	board, get them to truly understand your very unique
23	I was one of the people at the beginning	23	mission that goes far and above just the reading and
24	who said "Oh, gosh, we've got a lot to do. Can't we	24	writing, but the development of these empathetic
25	get on with the business?"	25	human beings, so that that takes time to get that
	Page 87		Page 89
1	But when I would sit down in the dialogue	1	individual to fully embrace that.
2	circle with Carlos, it was no time before I was so	2	DR. JANE ASHE: Yes, we said in the
3	totally engaged, feeling very accepted, exploring	3	application that our desire is to do this very
4	ideas and expressing ideas that I thought might be	4	quickly, as soon as the board can actually begin to
5	rejected, but people truly listened with respect.	5	act as a full board. Our understanding is that they
6	So I think the methodologies that he uses	6	cannot act as a sitting board until January of that
7	promote deep respect for one another within the	7	planning year, and but that in the meantime, we
8	school.	8	would be sending them to the required trainings and
9	COMMISSIONER TOULOUSE: Thank you. And I	9	any others that we could to get them prepared.
10	have a grandson who went to Cien Aguas in	10	But the latest date that we said that we
11	Albuquerque. I know about the bilingual and the	11	would that would be our least desired time to do
12	immersion. And I know you know, I grew up	12	that. We would like to do that very early, as soon
12	speaking Northern New Mexico Spanglish.	13	as the board comes together and is able to conduct
14	I said something in front of him when he	14	legal business.
15	was six, and he turns to me, and he looks, and he	15	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Can I ask Kara
16	says, "Grandma, your accent is really good, but the	16	Bobroff, the NACA Inspired Network, about the
17	sentence isn't." You know.	17	support that they will provide for the coming year,
18	And so I kind of quit saying anything in	18	just to help us with the timeline that the grant may
19	Spanish in front of him for a long time.	19	come?
20	So I know the values of these programs.	20	THE CHAIR: Oh, I'm sorry. No.
20	· ·		
	And Liust kids need to know more than one	2.1	MS_LUCIA CARMONA: No? Okay
21	And I just kids need to know more than one language. They need to know more than one culture,	21 22	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: No? Okay. THE CHAIR: I'm sorry. No. She can

- language. They need to know more than one culture,
- 23 more than two cultures. So I appreciate what you're 24 doing.
- 25 Thank you.

she's not -- sorry. MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Okay. As you can see,

whisper in your ear. But no, because public --

23

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24 (Pages 90 to 93)

			24 (1 ages 90 to 93)
	Page 90		Page 92
1	as I said, we come with these wonderful with this	1	And once again, I absolutely appreciate
2	extra support. And be sure, immediately upon the	2	everyone who came here. And we certainly admire the
3	approval of the of the charter, we will be able	3	time and the effort and the energy that has been put
4	to use those funds, because we will be those are	4	into this process. So thank you all for your
5	already allocated in some way, just waiting for	5	commitment to making education in New Mexico a
6	Department approval.	6	better thing.
7	THE CHAIR: Just waiting for our vote.	7	Thank you.
8	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: Yes, yes. Okay. We	8	VARIOUS SPEAKERS: Thank you very much.
9	will need funds to start spreading all these so	9	(Proceedings concluded at 3:30 p.m.)
10	there's a lot of needs that we would have to cover.	10	
11	THE CHAIR: Okay. Jane, did you get the	11	
12	magic answer?	12	
13	DR. JANE ASHE: I did. As soon as the	13	
14	charter would be approved, NACA would release funds	14	
15	to hire the administrator for the planning year, and	15	
16	money would be available from them for three years.	16	
17	THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.	17	
18	MS. LUCIA CARMONA: And also, they will	18	
19	continue supporting my fellowship in terms of	19	
20	facilitating the process of the planning year. So	20	
21	that's another and the business the other	21	
22	staff will be hired at least part-time under the	22	
23	business model.	23	
24	THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.	24	
25	Commissioners, anything else?	25	
	Page 91		Page 93
1	Ũ	1	
1	(No response.)	1 2	BEFORE THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION STATE OF NEW MEXICO
2	THE CHAIR: All right. Any member of the	3	STATE OF NEW MEXICO
3	public, including the applicants, may submit written	4	
4	input following this hearing. Written comments can	5	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
5	be sent to the Commission via	6	I, Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR, CCR #219, Certified
6	charter.schools@state.nm.us. They may also be	7	Court Reporter in the State of New Mexico, do hereby
7	mailed or hand-delivered. The details and addresses	8	certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true
8	should be at the back of the room as well.	9	transcript of proceedings had before the said NEW
9	Make sure you identify the school you're	10	MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION, held in the State
10	commenting on. Please note that any written input	11	of New Mexico, County of Doña Ana, in the matter
11	must be received by no later than 5:00 p.m. on the	12	therein stated.
12	third business day following the hearing on the	13	In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my
13	application on which you wish to comment.	14	hand on July 31, 2018.

For Raíces, that would be July 25th.

That would be July 25th, 2018, at

July 25th? Is that a weekday? I didn't

Thank you all for your presentation today.

in Santa Fe to render their decision on August 23rd

and August 24th. And this school is scheduled for

the 23rd. And at that time, we will render our

The Public Education Commission will meet

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check that.

5:00 p.m.

info@litsupport.com

It is? Okay.

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24 25

Job No.: 597N

Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR-CRR, NM CCR #219

BEAN & ASSOCIATES, INC.

201 Third Street, NW, Suite 1630

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

1 RECEIPT 2 JOB NUMBER: SYNN CC Date: 7/20/18 3 PROCEEDINGS: Community Input Hearing Proceedings 4 CASE CAPTION: In Re: Races del Saber Xinachtli 5 Cummanity School 6 ************************************
2 JOB NUMBER: 597N CC Date: 7/20/18 3 PROCEEDINGS: Community Input Hearing Proceedings 4 CASE CAPTION: In Re: Raíces del Saber Xinachtli 5 Community School 6 ************************************
3 PROCEEDINGS: Community Input Hearing Proceedings 4 CASE CAPTION: In Re: Raíces del Saber Xinachtli 5 Community School 6 ************************************
4 CASE CAPTION: In Re: Raíces del Saber Xinachtli 5 Community School 6 ************************************
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7 ATTORNEY: MS. BEVERLY FRIEDMAN, NMPED 8 DOCUMENT: Transcript / Exhibits / Disks / Other
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