BEFORE THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION STATE OF NEW MEXICO

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL HEARINGS
DAY THREE
November 14, 2024
8:00 a.m.
Mabry Hall, Jerry Apodaca Education Building
300 Don Gaspar
Santa Fe, New Mexico
AND
Via Zoom Webinar

REPORTED BY: Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR-CRR, NM CCR #219
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201 Third Street, NW, Suite 1630
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

JOB NO.: 148P (CC)

2 (Pages 2 to 5)

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| 1 | APPEARANCES | 1 | THE CHAIR: Good morning, everyone. I'm |
| 2 | COMMISSIONERS: | 2 | going to bring back to order this meeting of the |
| 3 | PATRICIA GIPSON, Chair STEVEN J. CARRILLO, Vice Chair | 3 | Public Education Commission. We are in day three of |
| 4 | TIMOTHY BECK, Secretary | 4 | our renewal hearings. It is the last day of |
| 5 | ALAN BRAUER, Member REBEKKA BURT, Member | 5 | renewals. We have two today. |
| 6 | SHARON CLAHCHISCHILLIAGE, Member | 6 | And the first one up is Amy Biehl High |
| | STEWART INGHAM, Member K.T. MANIS, Member | 7 | School. So I'm going to ask the folks from |
| 7 8 | MICHAEL TAYLOR, Member PED STAFF: | 8 | Amy Biehl you have to press it real hard. There |
| 9 | CORINA CHAVEZ Director | 9 | you go. |
| 10 | Charter School/Options for Parents and Families Division | 10 | FROM THE FLOOR: And it's green. |
| 11 | BRIGETTE RUSSELL Deputy Director | 11 | THE CHAIR: Yes. So I'm going to ask the |
| 12 | Charter School/Options for Parents and Families Division | 12 | folks from Amy Biehl if you would introduce |
| 13 | LUCY VALENZUELA Technical Assistance and | 13 | yourself, spell your last name, state your title, |
| 14 | Training Specialist Charter School/Options for Parents | 14 | and then we're good for the rest of the hearing. |
| | and Families Division | 15 | And then we'll move to the Public Ed |
| 15 | MISSY BROWN Technical Assistance and Support | 16 | Department's comments. |
| 16 | and Training Administrator | 17 | Then we'll do if there's anyone, we've |
| 17 | Charter School/Options for Parents and Families Division | 18 | saved room for tribal consultation. |
| 18 | NICOLA DAVIS Technical Assistance and Training Coordinator | 19 | The school will have the 30 minutes. |
| 19 | Charter School/Options for | 20 | We'll do Public Comment. And then we'll |
| 20 | Parents and Families Division | 21 | go. |
| | CONSUELO CONSTANTINE Liaison to PEC | 22 | Okay. You want to start the intros. |
| 21 22 | | 23 | MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Good morning, Madam |
| 23 | | 24 | Chair, Commissioners, and CSD partners. |
| 24 25 | | 25 | My name is Stephanie Becker. B-e-c-k-e-r. |
| | 3 | | 5 |
| 1 | | , | |
| 1 2 | INDEX TO PROCEEDINGS PAGE | $\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$ | And I have with us today, Cliff Wintrode. W-i-n-t-r-o-d-e. He's our board treasurer. |
| | CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL HEARINGS, Continued: | 3 | This is Aldis Philipbar. |
| 3 | g. Amy Biehl High School 4 | 4 | P-h-i-l-i-p-b-a-r. |
| 4 | Public Education Department Evaluation 7 | 5 | I win the spelling contest. |
| 5 | 2. Tribal Input 12 | 6 | I would like to introduce some folks that |
| 6 | 3. School Comments 12 | 7 | aren't going to speak, just so that you know they're |
| 7 | 4. Public Comment 34 | 8 | here. |
| 8 | 5. PEC Questions 34 | 9 | We have Rachel Berenson, our chair of our |
| 9 | h. The MASTERS Program 77 | 10 | governing board. We're grateful she's come. |
| 10 | 1. Public Education Department Evaluation 78 | 11 | We have some folks here for public comment |
| 11 | 2. Tribal Input 85 | 12 | and support. |
| 12 | 3. School Comments 86 | 13 | Behind me are the three Biehls, Linda |
| 13 | 4. Public Comment 111 | 14 | Biehl, matriarch; and sisters of Amy, Kim, and |
| 14 15 | 5. PEC Questions 138 | 15 | Molly; and two students, Dahlia Corral and Isabel |
| 16 | REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 213 ATTACHMENTS: | 16 | Taylor, who will be speaking later. Yeah. |
| 17 | 1 List of Attendees - Amy Biehl High School | 17 | MS. LUCY VALENZUELA: Good morning, Chair |
| 18 | 2 List of Attendees - The MASTERS Program | 18 | Gipson and Commissioners. As you know, my name is |
| 19 | 2 Elst of Attendees The IVII is This Trogram | 19 | Lucy Valenzuela, Authorizing Practices Administrator |
| 20 | | 20 | for the Charter Schools Division. And I am here to |
| 21 | | 21 | provide the PED evaluation for Amy Biehl High |
| 22 | | 22 | School. |
| 23 | | 23 | Amy Biehl High School opened its doors in |
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| 25 | | 25 | authorizer. In 2010, they changed authorizers and |
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| 1 | renewed with the Public Education Commission. And | 1 | and ethical habits to improve their communities. |
| 2 | this is their fourth renewal | 2 | Amy Biehl graduates are civic-minded, |
| 3 | THE CHAIR: Sorry. I have to back up. We | 3 | college-bound, and career-ready. |
| 4 | didn't take roll. | 4 | Dr. Stephanie Becker has been the |
| 5 | MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: I was so excited to | 5 | executive director since 2020. |
| 6 | get going. | 6 | The Charter Schools Division conducted its |
| 7 | THE CHAIR: Everyone here? Yeah, we're | 7 | renewal visit on Tuesday, September 17th. The visit |
| 8 | good. Okay. Sorry. | 8 | team consisted of myself as team lead, Dr. Brigette |
| 9 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Burt. | 9 | Russell, and our contractor, Kristen LaVolpa. |
| 10 | COMMISSIONER BURT: Here. | 10 | The Charter School Division recommends |
| 11 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Taylor. | 11 | that Amy Biehl High School be renewed with five |
| 12 | (No response.) | 12 | years without conditions. |
| 13 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Armijo. | 13 | The recommendation is based on the record |
| 14 | (No response.) | 14 | of the school's performance over the course of the |
| 15 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Manis. | 15 | contract term, the renewal application, which |
| 16 | COMMISSIONER MANIS: Here. | 16 | highlights adult actions and programs in the service |
| 17 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Brauer. | 17 | of student progress, and verification of those |
| 18 | COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Here. | 18 | programs and progress during our renewal site visit, |
| 19 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner | 19 | as well as our annual visits. |
| 20 | Clahchischilliage. | 20 | Amy Biehl has been designated a Spotlight |
| 21 | COMMISSIONER CLAHCHISCHILLIAGE: Here. | 21 | School for two consecutive years through the |
| 22 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Ingham. | 22 | New Mexico Vistas. Amy Biehl is located in Downtown |
| 23 | COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Here. | 23 | Albuquerque, and they have a diverse population. |
| 24 | SECRETARY BECK: Chair Gipson. | 24 | In the 2019-2020 school year, 76 percent |
| 25 | THE CHAIR: Here. | 25 | of their students met the Demonstration of |
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| | 7 | | 9 |
| 1 | · | 1 | |
| 1 2 | 7 SECRETARY BECK: Vice Chair Carrillo. VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Here. | 1 2 | 9 Competency standards for math, reading, and science. Their PSAT and NMSQT data showed |
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The school's Vistas designation is Spotlight, with a score of 70.4.

The school's proficiencies are 71 percent ELA, which is a 27 percent increase from the '22-'23 school year; 71 percent science; and 17 percent in math.

But as a friendly reminder, according to the PED New Mexico Vistas webpage, point totals from school year '22-'23 and '23-'24 cannot be compared due to changes in business rules.

For their financial and organizational sections, Amy Biehl High School demonstrated strong financial oversight throughout the contract term.

The only Does Not Meets Standard on their financial indicator was Indicator 2.a. due to a significant deficiency finding in the Fiscal Year 2023 audit.

That finding was the school's only audit for the year, and they have received four audit findings over the course of the contract term. None of them are repeat findings, (audio distortion) material weakness, and one significant deficiency.

Part B ratings.

So the school's ratings on Part B of the renewal application are as follows:

attending Ivy League universities, return to their
alma mater as a testament to the lasting influence
of their education. This ongoing connection
highlights the enduring strength of the school's
commitment to nurturing future leaders.

THE CHAIR: Thanks. I'm assuming there's no one on for tribal consultation.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: I do not see anybody here for tribal.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Thanks for checking. I appreciate it.

THE CHAIR: There's always that aspirational hope.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Yes, indeed. I wish our numbers were bigger. But I was just visiting NACA yesterday; so...

THE CHAIR: Oh, really?

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Yeah. Are you going to -- I am ready to roll.

So -- good morning.

THE CHAIR: So whenever you're ready.

SECRETARY BECK: Thank you so much. It really is a pleasure to be here to see all of you all and be here in person, thank goodness.

I just want to remind you a little bit

The school met the standard for their mission-specific goals, educational program, governance responsibilities, equity and identity, and other performance framework indicators.

The school demonstrated substantial progress under student outcomes and financial compliance.

A single audit finding kept the school from a Meets Standard for financial compliance, and the school has taken steps to avoid similar findings going forward.

In conclusion, Amy Biehl High School is committed to fostering academic excellence, while prioritizing the well-being and success of its students.

The school's leadership works diligently each year to uphold its mission and educational program, demonstrating adaptability and a proactive approach in addressing challenges.

During our annual visits, we have consistently been impressed by the positive impact the school has, not only within the classroom, but also within the community.

Amy Biehl's alumni, many of whom are pursuing careers as doctors, lawyers, nurses, or

1 about Amy Biehl.

Thirty-one years ago, Amy Biehl, a Stanford grad and Fulbright Scholar, went to South Africa because of her passion to end apartheid. And, tragically, she was murdered by a mob in Gugulethu, Cape town.

However, during the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, honoring what they were sure Amy would have wanted, her parents supported amnesty for the four men who killed their daughter and subsequently created a foundation in her name employing and working alongside two of her killers.

Twenty-five years later, when the founders of our school decided that they needed to create a different space for disadvantaged and disengaged youth, they said, "We've got to name it after a really spectacular young person. No more presidents."

And so they approached Linda and Peter Biehl and said, "May we please name our school after your daughter, because her legacy will meet our mission, and we can do our work in her name."

And they agreed, saying, "But you cannot fail. Amy did not accept failure."

And so, thankfully, they said yes, and

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we're really grateful for that. And 25 years later, we get to come back to you asking for another five years to do the work that we do.

You've already heard -- next slide, actually, two more slides.

Because I've introduced the folks that are here, you know, our mission is -- you know, I just keep hammering it around -- civic-minded, college-bound, and career-ready students that go out into the world and make a difference.

And we do that every single day.

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But who are we? Who do we serve? And I am really proud to say that our staff and our students reflect each other.

So you can see the numbers on who we serve and who are serving our kids.

The other really remarkable thing about our school is we have a 34 percent special ed student population, six of which are gifted.

We're a Title I school, as you can see. 30 percent -- and in our last survey, 30 percent identified as queer and 15 as gender-fluid. And in any given year, it could be 40 to even 70 percent of our students are going to be first-gen college

climbing to push them farther. We take them to the pueblo mission. So we want them to practice team-building skills, but we want them to try things that are scary, because going to college might be scary, so we want to prepare them for that.

Next slide.

We -- I just am really proud of our school in that we were one of the first schools to implement with fidelity the Multi-Layered System of Supports. Again, this is serving kids that haven't been identified as special ed, but might be struggling. And we can identify them all and send them that way.

It worked really well, even though it initially was a little bit rocky. But we were one of the leaders in using that MLSS system.

Next slide.

I am incredibly proud of the fact that our faculty are 60 percent dual-licensed. So that means nine out of our fifteen teachers are dual-licensed in special ed. But we also have seven EAs to serve our students with special needs.

And part of the seven are Ed Fellows whom we have employed. And we're so grateful to the state for the Ed Fellow program. We have five Ed

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attendees.

We have 22 ZIP Codes represented in our little downtown school. And as you can see, we're a top workplace -- next slide -- for the last three years.

But what makes Amy Biehl unique is that we're a safe school, where students practice empathy, where they work with one another. They always assume -- well, I'd like to say "always" -but they often assume best intentions.

We all work on that. Great news is we are now an Early College High School-designated school. I don't know why it wasn't before, but I'm so glad we are now, because we can now use processes and institutionalize the dual credit earlier on than we did before.

Next slide.

One of the things that makes us a safe school is that we focus heavily on the whole child. And part of that is a really robust social-emotional learning curriculum that we embed in advisory, but we also do grade-level activities that take kids outdoors.

We've been really able to benefit from some outdoor grants, where we take them rock Fellows. One, we graduated last year, so now -these five.

And one of our Ed Fellows is now our biology teacher, which is really exciting. You can read what Amber has said -- Ms. Romero -- has said about our work.

And those -- the one with the picture is because he's already at class. So, hopefully, that's why he wasn't there.

But they were a remarkable group, and our kids adore them, and they work so well with them.

Next slide.

One of the other things that makes us a safe school is that we require 100 percent of our staff to be trained in Crisis Prevention Intervention, so we can de-escalate before things get too tricky. It works really well, and we're grateful for that work.

The next slide.

I -- oh. And you can see Dahlia in that picture.

We are also a leader in environmental sustainability. Our lead science teacher, Sandra Mack, came to me years ago saying, "We should teach permaculture, and we need to put less concrete in

Downtown Albuquerque."

And so she and her permaculture class have been working with Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation. We have Joaquin Baca, who's working with us from the City. And we're all trying to put together a rainwater harvesting project on the south side of our building, where we take up concrete and replace it with a rainwater harvesting and green-water system.

The other thing -- which I know it's crazy to look at if you see that little flyer there -- our lunch is a zero-waste program. That means we have zero food and zero container waste. So we have these things called "Cluck-It Buckets" that our families take home the food waste to their kitchens.

And we -- thankfully, Corina -- we were able to get a free dishwasher from a school that had to close. So we schlepped and got the dishwasher. We got a kitchen renovation grant. And now we have only, like, you know, washable things, so that trays -- we have a student doing his work study with us, washing and making sure our trays are clean.

So I feel like -- I would love to nominate us for a Green Ribbon award, but that's for another day.

I know I'm zipping through that, but I'm coming to the part where we know we've got to talk about our "Achilles heel." And that's math.

I know we're not alone in this, but I'm not going to blame anybody else about it.

We do get our kids at 15 percent proficient, and our goal is to move that needle farther and better.

We've been hovering in the 17 percent proficient for quite a while, and it's just not acceptable for us, as it should not be.

So we've -- as a faculty and a really hugely collaborative faculty, we are taking a lot of different initiatives.

You heard that we tried some. That didn't work. So we go back again.

We're going old-school. We are doing something called Mad Math Minutes at the beginning of advisories. So they have a sheet of -- I don't know -- 60, 100, whatever how many math problems, multiplication or division, and they have to see how far they get in a minute.

And then they're tracking their success. That's just one little part.

When we dove into our math scores, we

Next slide.

Our outcomes do speak for themselves. You've already seen that we're a Spotlight School.

One of the things I want us to look at are how we're serving our Yazzie kids. Our ELs are making progress, according to our data.

Next.

This is what I think is one of the most remarkable things. Our special ed students outperform the whole population of state -- students in the State of New Mexico. So our special ed students are outperforming not only their peers in the state -- and you'll see that in another slide -- but the entire state in science -- next slide -- in math and in reading.

So you can see our kids are making headway and proficiency in enormous strides, more than their counterparts in other places in the state.

Next slide.

Equally as remarkable is our economically disadvantaged students are also outperforming their peers in the state. You can see the numbers there. And that's in math, reading, and science.

Next slide.

tried to identify where they were really falling down. And so we've been helping not only our math teachers, but we've been implementing math in cross-curricular spaces.

I'm going to go to the next slide to show you, and then I'll come back.

I know it's hard to see this. But our
New Mexico history teacher developed a lesson on the
Trinity bomb and included math problems for them to
do to get through that lesson, as they were learning
about the bomb and they were calculating whatever is
going on, like, the spread or -- and it's -- I
watched them doing that just yesterday. It was
really exciting.

So back to the former slide please.

We have math support classes. We're doing SAT prep questions as bell-ringers. It's a -- it's an "all hands on deck" effort.

And I'm -- I'm a little bit excited -- I'm just going to be a little thrilled for the moment.

Our class of 2026, as you can see, as tenth-graders scored at 14 percent proficient on the PSAT. But this year, as juniors, they scored 20 percent proficient.

So we're going to keep hammering it with

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them. We'll see how they do in April. And I'll hopefully be able to report to you next year that our math scores are making the way up.

I am by no means under any illusion that it's going to be a rocket ship flying to the sky.
But I think incrementally creating -- really creating an environment and a culture that says math is actually fun and math is useful and you can do math means that we'll move those scores.

As you already heard, we're doing great in reading and science. I hope we keep getting better. We're really strong kids in that. We have great kids in that.

Next.

I'm going to cede the mic for a minute to Cliff Wintrode, which I've already spelled, our treasurer.

MR. CLIFF WINTRODE: Thank you. My name is Cliff Wintrode. I'm the treasurer of the governing council and have been for more than 20 years.

I have been the treasurer for the governing council through, now, this is the fifth charter school renewal process. And I'm here today to speak about this slide you're looking at and

education funding on its special education students. That is, on average, Amy Biehl spent 1.3 times the amount of special education revenue it received every year on servicing and supporting its special education students.

So not only is it spending nearly three out of every four dollars on those essential functions that determine student outcomes, it is spending an abundant portion of those resources on supporting its special education students.

And then, in addition to that, the school can point to the operating -- what this slide doesn't show is the school's cash balance in the operating fund at the beginning of the school year. It's a very healthy balance. It's a balance that did not arise by accident, and it's a balance that exists for a year, for this school year, when many schools and school districts are struggling with the financial consequences of the loss of COVID funding.

Amy Biehl prepared for that. Two years ago, in the fall of 2022, the governing council and the school leadership, in the face of declining student enrollment and the inevitable end of COVID funding, created a fiscal sustainability committee. And that committee was charged by the governing

another aspect of financial sustainability.

The Public Education Department and the State -- and the Legislature have, for a while, set as a standard for spending, operational spending, that 70 percent of the SEG revenue that a school receives be spent on three functions: direct instruction, instructional support, and student support.

And these three functions are deemed essential for achieving student success and for the quality of the student experience.

In the past four years since the school was last renewed, that slide shows that in each of those four years, our percentage of spending on those three functions easily exceeded 70 percent.

Not only that, there was a report by the -- by the Legislative Finance Committee, as you know, in November of 2023, a SpEd -- special education progress report. And that report found that over the six-year period, Fiscal Year '18 through '23, that on the average each year, schools spent only 80 percent of the special ed funding they were receiving through the -- through the SEG formula. Well, over that same six-year period, Amy Biehl spent 130 percent of its SEG special

council -- it was a committee of the governing council.

And that committee was charged with taking a clear-eyed look at the projections for operating revenues and operating expenditures and then making recommendations to the full governing council about any changes to the cost structure of the school that would be considered necessary to maintain a minimum operating fund cash balance.

As a result of that process, there were some difficult decisions made about staffing levels over the last couple of years.

So in a sense, the school has paid its dues to be in the financial position that it is in right now.

That is so -- not only is it spending its money where its purpose is; it's preparing itself to do so for many years to come.

The last thing I'll mention is the audit finding that was mentioned at the beginning here. There has never been, to my memory, a material weakness found in any -- in any annual audit of the school. The only significant deficiency found in that four-year period since the last renewal was the one that was mentioned.

You know, audit findings -- I've been an auditor and auditee for most of my career. And people have the notion that audit findings are gotchas, that the purpose of the compliance testing that auditors do is to "getcha."

But that's really not the purpose of the compliance testing that auditors do. The purpose of compliance testing is to determine weaknesses and then -- and work with the school to resolve those weaknesses.

The goal is for the school to improve their processes. And every time Amy Biehl has gotten a finding like this, it is never a repeat finding. They learn, they want to learn, they want to do better, and they do.

And so I can -- I can say I -- so I'll conclude by saying I'm still the treasurer of the governing council after all these years, because never, not once, in my 20-some years as a treasurer has the leadership of Amy Biehl ever given me any doubt that they're committed to financial integrity and the belief that a strong financial foundation promotes healthy and good student outcomes.

Thank you.

MS. ALDIS PHILIPBAR: Hi, everyone.

financial barriers, after-school programs, service learning, field trips, among other things.

So thank you. Next slide.

SECRETARY BECK: Next slide.

So I'm going to wrap it up here, because I have a little video to show you.

But I just want to remind you that we meet our mission every day, scholarship and service, whether we're working hard in the early college high school, whether we are going out on service trips, service missions throughout the city, I tell my students we take a little piece of Amy Biehl in our hearts, not just wearing the T-shirt.

Next slide.

And I just want to also remind you that we have 25 years of great outcomes and really terrific successes. There's a few of them right there. But I want our alums to tell the story better than we have.

So I'm going to let them -- have you guys watch a video that we made when I got to speak to some of our former students.

(Video plays.)

24 (Applause.)

SECRETARY BECK: Thank you. So I'm ready

My name is Aldis Philipbar. I'm the community school coordinator at Amy Biehl High School. I'm going to touch on our foundation really

So the Amy Biehl High School Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with the mission of supporting Amy Biehl High School.

So our foundation was founded in 2001, when our founder decided to move from a small auxiliary building to the former historical building on Fourth and Gold, which is a former courthouse and post office. So the foundation was founded to raise the \$4 million that was needed to convert that space into a school.

Since then, the foundation has helped sustain Amy Biehl High School through the loss of the Small School Size adjustment and the end of ESSER funds. And the foundation really supports programs that are mission-focused.

So we have a financial aid program for our students who qualify for free or reduced lunch, for college-related expenses, so, like, taking -- getting their SAT paid for or college application fees, anything that -- you know, we're trying to remove barriers to college, especially those

1 for -- I think it's time for public comment.

I will just -- sorry -- I'll just move out of the way, and I'll let folks come.

FROM THE FLOOR: Got to get everything ready. All right.

My name is Isabel Taylor. T-a-y-l-o-r. I started my high school career at Albuquerque High. I wasn't at Amy Biehl. And for the first three years, that's where I was.

I spent one year in quarantine, one year in person, but behind masks, and then the third year, it was relatively normal.

It took me a long time to realize that Albuquerque High wasn't the place for me. The class sizes were too big. Everything -- teachers, students, the building itself felt kind of apathetic. And I never felt as though I made any meaningful connections there.

After a rough junior year, I was ready to graduate high school behind a screen in online classes.

My parents and I compromised, and I enrolled at Amy Biehl Charter High School. I was missing credits and was hardly prepared for my senior year, let alone college. So I redid my

junior year. And nothing could have been better for me. I've since made up my credits, and I can finally become a fully-fledged senior.

2.

Amy Biehl has gifted me with belonging and a new sense of understanding. I was given the amazing opportunity to travel to Cuba where I met wonderful friends and experienced a world entirely different from what I know.

I have Amy Biehl to thank for broadening the scope of my horizons and preparing me so excellently for the next step.

I kindly implore you to renew my school's charter so it can help others, like it helped me. I'm going to turn it off.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good morning, everyone. Madam Chair, Commissioners, and CSD partners. My name is Ale [ph] Corral, C-o-r-r-a-l, and I am very grateful to have the opportunity to talk about Amy Biehl.

I can honestly say that this school has changed not only my life, but my family's life. I am on the way of becoming a third-generation graduate from Amy Biehl.

And in preparation for this I asked my mother why, year after year, she continued to pick

Biehl, B-i-e-h-l.

I am here to speak on behalf of my sister and my mom, who may speak after me. I'm not sure, and then my brother, who is not here today, who's in Atlanta.

And, first, I would like to mention that I recently moved back to New Mexico. I'm a product of New Mexico schools until halfway through high school when we moved to California.

I work for Global Santa Fe, which is formerly the Council on International Relations. And I have had the distinct honor of working with these two fabulous women here, and, by default, Carlos. They participated in our youth -- Youth Leadership Diplomacy program.

And what that entailed was, beyond their regular school obligations, to convene with us on virtual modules that taught them the skills of diplomacy.

Diplomacy. A lot of those skills which we adapted from the National Museum on American Diplomacy are character-building skills, such as awareness, listening, composure. And I think you can see that they have all these qualities.

The -- after they participated in the

this school. And her response was simple. She said that she felt the school gave students the opportunity to be who they really wanted to be, and the teachers help students excel.

And much as I hate to admit it, she is right.

When I first came into Amy Biehl, I was really scared that I was going to be known as my sister's younger sister, and I was going to live in the shadow. But, thankfully, Steph and everyone else gave me the opportunity to be me and grow into the person that I am today, and for that, I will always be grateful.

I know they won't admit it. But I'm the best out of the three. And for that, I will always be thankful.

I had the opportunity to meet incredible people, like Isabel and Carlos and everyone else at the school. And I really hope that you guys continue to let this legacy remain.

There's one more in my family, so I'm just asking for one more.

But thank you.

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning,

madam Chairperson and Commission. My name is Molly

modules, they then had the opportunity for international exchange, which, as Amy's sister, is highly meaningful. And they traveled to Cuba with Stuart and Peggy Ashman, who are local people, where they learned about lives in other countries.

And I think it was Isabel that said she will remember her life as "Before Cuba," "During Cuba," and "After Cuba."

So I would just like to offer my full support for extension of the charter for this school. I am committed, as a Biehl family member, to supporting them in any way I can. And I will even do math if I have to, because, as Stephanie said, failure is not an option here.

And I -- as a mother of three young people, I would just like to say that we're preparing our children for jobs that don't yet exist; right? We do not know the future in terms of employment opportunities, et cetera.

Every time I've ever stepped foot on Amy Biehl High School, I have seen people look me in the eye. They are faces; they are people. I've been on many, many campuses. I've been involved in education at every level. You do not find that places.

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These people are nurtured in such a way that they are human beings. And that is a very large tribute to my sister, who believed in giving everyone a full opportunity to a successful education and a meaningful life.

And so I fully support the renewal of this charter. And I thank you very much for your time and your consideration.

(Applause.)

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MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: That might be all. I think that's all who signed up.

THE CHAIR: Is there anyone online? MS. MELISSA BROWN: There's nobody online.

and that was everybody I had signed up.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Super. I will say we have our dean, Halley Wheeless, W-h-e-e-l-e-s-s, and our business -- our finance director, Mary Hagemann, H-a-g-e-m-a-n-n, available for any questions. So they're on Zoom if you need to ask any questions of them specifically.

THE CHAIR: Okay. Commissioner Beck? SECRETARY BECK: Thank you. What a wonderful school. It's awesome -- great job, the kids. We always love hearing from the kids. Congratulations on your Spotlight.

1 class, and your Vistas score -- in those days, it 2. wasn't Vistas.

> My question is, you're ninth through twelfth. Where -- how do you -- have you looked at the growth rate? You get kids in that are really super deficient in math.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Absolutely. SECRETARY BECK: And just talk real quick about how you assess their growth in math from when you pick them up in ninth -- because you probably get them from all over the place, I would assume. You said 22 different ZIP Codes.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Yes, sir. SECRETARY BECK: Is that a function of the problem there?

And the other thing that -- if you wouldn't mind talking about real quick, is usually there's a correlation between science and math.

> MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Right. SECRETARY BECK: Yeah, yeah.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: In math, it's all about the calculations, I think. And on some level, we do have an incoming ninth-grade class that, on average, shows up at about 15 percent proficient from their eighth grade. And the -- the variations

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1 on where they are grade level is dramatic.

> It could be second all the way to twelfth; right? And as you know, we're a fully included school, so we need to teach everybody in that classroom and pay attention to everybody's strengths and challenges.

> > SECRETARY BECK: Right.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: I will say that, you know, we do use Star -- the Renaissance Star testing as a short-cycle assessment. And there are -- you know -- again, in any test, the day -- it could be a snapshot of what they're doing; right? But we're testing them more and more and trying to gauge growth.

And as I showed you in the PSAT, the class of 2026 is demonstrating some growth.

It's an "all hands on deck." I think we might shift up some teaching assignments and see if we can move some people doing other things. We really support our teachers in their autonomy, yet trying to stick with the --

SECRETARY BECK: I read -- Vice Chair Carrillo always chides me that all I ask about is professional development.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: (Off-mic.)

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Thank you. SECRETARY BECK: That's excellent.

It's a quandary. This math is a quandary. I mean, everything else is just, you know, pure gold. And then that -- and I'm not even going to ask you -- I don't even think I'm going to ask you any questions on it, because it appears you really are laser-focused on trying to improve it.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Yes.

SECRETARY BECK: So I don't even know -- I was a teacher for thirteen years. The end of my career started at 52 as a teacher.

So I know you're working on it. I know you're trying to do everything with it.

I guess my question is -- you're nine through twelve. It's kind of a weird thing with the PED that ninth through twelfth, your Vistas scores depend on one test for eleventh graders.

It's bizarre to me that you get one grade. It can be a great grade -- I taught at Sandia High. We'd go, "Oh, gosh. The ninth grade guy is coming in. Oh, boy. This is going to be a problem."

Or, "Wow, this ninth-grade class is awesome."

You go from an awesome class to a terrible

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SECRETARY BECK: I'm sorry. I looked at your professional development. You have personal professional development, collaborative professional development, content teams. That's why I said I'm not going to ask you a question about it, because, obviously, you do it. I get it. It's just bizarre.

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MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Well, it is a conundrum for us.

I will say that I've been at Amy Biehl for 16 years, and math has never been something we've been great at. So we're still trying to crack that code. And I --

SECRETARY BECK: Let me tell you. I mean, I've been doing this thing for two years. And everybody's math is significantly weaker than their -- you're not alone in that. You're kind of alone in the --

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: The stuff over here; right?

SECRETARY BECK: Yeah.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: It's about more the reasoning. And because their critical thinking skills are so on -- above average, for sure, I think that helps them gauge and answer those questions better.

spending. I wish I could get 60 of you and just put one of you in every single one of our governing boards. So just throwing this out there.

During any conference, charter school conference, it would be great for you to teach a session for other governing board members on how you do that financing and how you're prioritizing dollars in the classroom and aligning it to your mission, because that's actually how it's supposed to happen.

And I think a lot of governing board folks do their best, but they don't have that vision and don't understand how the finances really impact the function of serving kids in a school.

So just to see that level of money going into the classroom is astounding for a charter school. I mean, it really is. It's very difficult for charter schools to get that level up there. And so I love that you're doing it, because now I get to tell everyone else, "Well, Amy Biehl is doing it, so, you know, figure it out."

You know, "Why is yours at 50 percent," you know.

So thank you for that. Thank you. Appreciate your time and all the volunteer hours you

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I mean, I will say I have some colleagues from our schools that are, like, "What? How do you do that?"

I'm, like, "Well, we have excellent teachers."

I'm not saying that our math teachers are not excellent. We're just again trying to crack the code and find the right way.

SECRETARY BECK: I don't know. Maybe you reach out -- you look for charters that have great math, and you reach out to them and say, "What are you doing?" Or something like -- I don't know. It's a conundrum. But I know you're on it. That's all I have.

THE CHAIR: Commissioner Burt. COMMISSIONER BURT: Good morning. MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Good morning. COMMISSIONER BURT: So first off, I'm very happy to support this school for five years, no conditions. I mean, it's super easy.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Thank you. COMMISSIONER BURT: What an incredible model, incredible execution of the model.

And I want to say a massive kudos to the governing board in the intentionality of your

put to doing that kind of level of execution of the budget in this school, because it really does -- I mean, it works like this (indicates). And I don't think many people understand it in the way that you are able to not only understand it, articulate, but execute it. So thank you. It's incredible.

Okay. Actually, I do -- the only question I have is about your early college high school program.

When I looked, I think I have an idea in my head of what that is kind of a definition of, and I'm maybe a little too narrow. And so I'm wondering what -- what degrees, certificates are available to your students. Like, what does that look like, the promise of an early college high school and how is that executed in the school?

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: So an early college high school gives underclassmen the opportunity to do dual credit a little bit earlier. The requirement -- we opted for something called an "academy model," because we know that not all of our students are going to be seeking that option. And although we do require two dual credit classes for graduation, in the academy model, we have students who are more interested in getting some more credits

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And so the requirement is four classes. Although we have 35 kids enrolled already in the academy, we're offering three classes on campus.

And we have two sort of routes.

One is in film, because we have a really great partnership with CNM and UNM, the film department. We have a professor on campus who teaches two different film classes that then can feed them into a film program.

As you know, Albuquerque is exploding with opportunities. And so we're leveraging our connections and community partnerships in film so that those kids can then have that opportunity.

But if, say, for example, they even take film, and they're, like, "Well, maybe not," we have something called an "integrated studies pathway." We can put them on the pathway that way.

Emese was our only one to graduate -- and you can imagine. It was an intense program to get her associate's and an Amy Biehl diploma.

We have kids that are aiming for that. We like to make sure they're successful. We don't want to push them right away. We want to make sure they have the habits and the maturity to be able to be

heavily focused on the credits from the high school.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Absolutely.

COMMISSIONER BURT: If you can do some dual credit. You have to do at leats two. Everyone has to do two. If you enroll in the early college model, you're going to do four.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: At a minimum. That's where they get their cord at graduation.

COMMISSIONER BURT: It would probably be hard to do that because they still have to take all the high school. There's no swapping out.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: It just depends on the kid. And because we treat and really work with each kid, what they want and where they want to go and what they want to do -- you saw Ciara [ph] on there. She got into the BA/MD program, which is incredibly competitive. And by the time she started, she had already completed ten classes toward her degree. So that supported that effort.

COMMISSIONER BURT: Yeah. I just want to -- I think it's great.

I always -- I think oftentimes families and students have to make a choice between programming and academics, you know, that if you put -- if you want to go into this community

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successful.

Does that answer your question?

COMMISSIONER BURT: It does. I think when I think of an early college high school, I see it as kids earning a degree or certificate by the end of

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: That's only certain high schools. I was, just yesterday, at an early college high school conference at the College and Career High School at CNM. And that's a real intentional program for all of their students that puts them on that pathway, where they do high school in the morning and college on that campus in the afternoon. So we have a very different model and are offering kind of a broader variety of options for our students depending on their capacity.

COMMISSIONER BURT: Yeah. So, okay. That's --

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: That's why the early college high school has that thing called the "academy model," which means that certain kids can enroll and participate that way. But it's not a requirement.

COMMISSIONER BURT: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. And it sounds like it's not -- the school is more

service-minded -- well, maybe the academics aren't as great and so -- "But we value this. So we're going to pick this, and we'll let this part suffer."

Or, "We really value academics. Maybe they don't have programming; maybe they don't emphasize these other values we have. But we'll let that part suffer in order to get the good academics"; right?

And so I love when there's schools that provide -- you don't have to pick. You don't have to decide, like, you know, which one do you want to prioritize? Both are prioritized at a high level. I just appreciate that a lot.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: You'd be surprised at how much one serves the other. These kids definitely prove that, their work in the community and in the workforce feeds and supports their academic success.

COMMISSIONER BURT: I love that. I love that it's that false dichotomy that I feel like people get themselves into that's it's "or" -- you can do "and."

So I love being able to use great schools, especially charter schools, as examples of you can do "and." Like, a whole child education is academic

and social-emotional. It's all -- it's all of it.

So I -- it's wonderful. Thank you for coming up, for the students coming up, for your alumni for taking the time to give us some more information. It's always helpful. And looking forward to your next five years and continuing to serve not just your students but the community at large, and that's really special and beautiful.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Exactly. Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Commissioner Brauer.
COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Thank you, Chair.
Ms. Becker, it's great to see you. Thank you
everyone for coming today, the Biehl family as well.
Thank you, students. It's always great to see the
clarity and confidence from you when you come up
here.

I still get nervous when I'm up here. And I've been on all sides of this room, on your side, Ms. Becker, and Corina's side, and here. And I still get the sweats. And when I see students come up and just show such confidence and self-awareness, I just think it's, like, a beautiful thing.

And I know that comes from within, and, also, is nurtured at Amy Biehl High School. Thank

1 from 2021-'22, the '22-'23. It decreased by 2 24 percentage points

24 percentage points.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Yeah. That was frightening.

COMMISSIONER BRAUER: I've looked at other schools that are kind of like early childhood schools (verbatim), nine-to-twelve schools, and, actually, there was an increase in a couple of them.

And so I also want to share, just like Commissioner Burt. I'm going to support you, unless there's a meteor that hits us. But it did catch my eye that there's almost a quarter -- 25 percent or more of a decrease. Then it goes up. It went up to 71 percent, I believe, in the most recent Vistas from '23-'24.

I want to hear a little bit about what happened. You spoke a little bit about that in your Part B. Since it's such a glaring change -- it's still above -- I just want to share it's above -- but you all have a different level for your students, I think, than just hitting New Mexico averages or APS averages. So...

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: I don't want to fall on old tropes. But I will tell you that particular representation was our COVID class. And

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you very much for that.

Same with your alumni.

And it's always great to hear young people say that they're learning how to write. I think that is, like, the one thing in our state and nationally, like, that is something that I feel like it's an epidemic that we don't talk about.

I'm not in the academic world all that much, especially at university level. But I know it just seems that that is something that is undiagnosed as an area of concern, so that we have young people who can persuade both by oral abilities, but also by writing.

Then also just find joy in that. It was awesome to hear that from your young alumni about how you all supported them.

I have a couple of other things I wanted to share. I just have two main questions.

And the first one, I -- I've been looking at the reading across your -- the reading scores across the charter term.

And I don't -- forgive me if I don't -- if I -- if this is very obvious, so I apologize, Commissioners, and to you, Ms. Becker. I've just done a little bit of, like, review of your scores

it also was just a catch-up. It was also a pretty small sample size.

I'm constantly trying to pay attention to the sample size. That's why some of our data is masked because we have a very tiny sample size.

I will say that I fought like a devil, and the squeakiest wheel when we initially got some Vistas scores, and they represented something that looked pretty frightening based on a sample size of three.

And so I can't make excuses for the fact that they went down in that particular way. I'm hoping they're served better through their senior year and off. Now they're into college.

I would imagine and just say that was a fluke, really, because I think we are pretty steady at reading. So that's my best explanation for you on that one.

COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Thank you. I appreciate that.

I know I just -- it's been a minute since I've been in classrooms at your school. But I know that -- I know the level of rigor. That's where this question is coming from.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Yeah. I hear you.

COMMISSIONER BRAUER: The other question I have -- I just wanted to -- again, it's not -- the world is not falling apart. But I'm just a little bit -- I'm a little bit, I guess, surprised by the graduation, fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-year

And I'm just curious about what have you all learned from that? Because I would have assumed that it would have been a lot -- like, above average, like, reaching for the stars, knowing what you all do with my own eyes, seeing this from your students.

I just wanted to see what -- what's going on there and what are you paying attention to.

graduation, that it's slightly under the average.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: I'm really glad you asked that question, because, you know, there's a number. And we want to reach that number, and we have that goal. But the reality is that we have some students that just aren't ready to graduate in four years, and we want to serve that student in a way.

So we sort of -- not that we -- so we keep the student as the priority. And I say to everybody, every single decision we make is the lens -- the lens has to be how are we serving our leadership, the -- I can't remember what it's called, and I'm so sorry. Like, the interdisciplinary study that each person has to do in service to the community. What's that project called?

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: The Senior Project is what they do. It's funded and supported institutionally. They -- they have to do a class in eleventh grade called Compass, where they really explore their passions and talents.

This follows -- they took civics before that. Then they follow that in their junior year, and they decide where they -- what is the social justice issue they want to address, where would they like to work.

And I -- before I became the ED, I was the Director of Community Engagement, so I was intimately involved in this process.

And one of the things that's really important is that -- and we began this over ten years ago, thinking about, "Well, if you have an interest in a career in this way, you could serve, just as Ciara did, the emergency department, and you could go there and work and serve and get exposed to that, and, also, you know, give of your time."

student or students; right?

But notwithstanding -- and, again, because of sample size, you know, we have some kids that just really needed one more year at our school before they left; and some, maybe two.

And so that's the reason. We'd rather keep them and prepare them than rush and get them out so we can achieve a particular number.

So I -- you know, as much as I don't want to take the hit for that, I see an individual -- or I see this individual. So I want to make sure he or she is served better than, sadly, our graduation rate. So, yeah.

COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Now -- thank you for that. Now I'm going to gush for just a few minutes, if that's okay, Chair.

So I think my first experience with the school, I think it was 2006 or -5. Tony was still the lead. And I was the director with Teach for America in the McKinley County area. And we brought teachers as part of their professional development to the school.

And I just remember how -- how beautiful that whole day was for our teachers, for myself to see the level of rigor, the -- just the student

And so then when they're seniors, they're only on campus for, like, the first half of the day, because they have to go -- it's a minimum of 100 hours. And oftentimes they'll serve 200, 300 hours.

We have a career readiness rubric that goes with that that really supports their progress. And we can not just anecdotally have, you know, like "Oh, they're doing a great job." No.

We have evidence of their growth in professionalism, in communication. And so we support them in that.

COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Excellent. That's something that really just made me so excited about how that was connected to the overall mission of the school, but how that really related to student preparedness and just doing some very rigorous things around the idea of community and service and social justice as well.

So kudos to that.

And then I just wanted to share just a few more thoughts.

You know, I've had a chance to come to the school after that 2006 moment and gone to a couple of the different celebrations, including the

25th Year celebration last year -- or this year, I guess, Ms. Biehl, when you spoke.

And I just think about every time I hear you all, the Biehls, like, speak about Amy and your -- and also your work, I'm just so -- I'm moved to tears, and I'm also moved to action.

And -- to think about that in a world that we are so divided -- it seems, like, so divided -- that there are people like you, people like Amy who can go through the greatest of tragedies and figure out ways to work with others and go through the process of restoration, reconciliation, and, for me, a person of faith, of forgiveness.

And I think that's something that, if I had children, I'd want them to come to this school to learn from -- from you all, to have that deep-seated connection to the origin story of this school.

And so thank you all for all that you do. Super excited to see where this school goes. And I'm happy that this is -- it's not my school, but, like, you're in my district. So it's more so great to have that.

Thank you very much and congratulations. MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Thank you,

they're like yours. They were knocking it out of the park in so many different ways. But not math.

And it was the same thing, actually, a middle school in Gallup. But one of the things that they did is because they had just -- it made them crazy that they are so good in so many areas in graduating so many kids -- and I would encourage you to look into this -- is a program that was completely paid for by a grant.

And it was through Exeter in New Jersey. And they took -- all their three math teachers went there -- oh, there. Exeter in New Hampshire. There you go.

And they -- because it's, like, why do people struggle in math so much? I love math, and I did really well in it until I got to college and I was doing other things.

But it -- kids sometimes are scared of math, because they're not doing well, and so they feel, "Oh, my God, I can never do math."

There are all sorts of roadblocks that people have to math that they bring mostly themselves to the table. But then the thing is, as an instructor -- and this program taught the instructors this -- how do we break through that?

Commissioner Brauer.

THE CHAIR: Commissioner Carrillo.
VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Thank you. Thanks

for being here, students. Always love hearing from you.

I'm going to echo what some others said. It just makes it real for us, and it reminds us all the time as to why we do the work. So hearing from you, and also hearing from you with such confidence and eloquence, there's nothing, for me, personally, that I love more than when I meet young people and they're confident, they're well-spoken and well-mannered, respectful in their situations. That takes you so far, just little things like that.

I was just -- Molly, you had even said when you go to other schools -- at this school, they look you in the eye when you're walking down the hallway. That happens because the kids feel a sense of self-confidence in their environment. And that's huge, just in terms of preparing them for life.

So a couple of things -- just writing some notes down.

On the math thing, let's do that first.

So last renewal period, we had a school -
New Mexico School for the Arts. And they're not --

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How do we make math more fun, more relevant, and conquer whatever fears there may be around math?

So their scores, you know, soared after that in math. And I respect them very much and some other schools, when they see something, a problem, they say, "Okay, we're not satisfied by this by any means. We have to tackle it."

So, clearly, you know, if we did a condition -- if I did a condition -- it would be around math. It would be wanting to see some -- like, a report back in one year in terms of what you're doing, what progress you've made. Because doing the same types of things, if they're not approaching the problem from a different way, same results; right?

And let's face it -- and you mentioned this, and I saw Stephanie back there nodding. Kids when they come sometimes to your school, they are so deficient in math, you're just trying to get them to grade level as best I you can. And I understand that as well.

But, anyway, it's the program. You can call NMSA and ask them, say, "Commissioner Carrillo suggested this." They're really nice over there.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Super.

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VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: So that's on the math side.

Curiously, how many kids -- how many students are in your lottery waiting list? I would imagine it's quite a few.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Over 50 right now, yeah.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: All right. And I love it that your students come from all over.

On the graduation rates, I was really happy that Commissioner Brauer asked that question, because I had that down. And I'm satisfied with your answer.

So if you were to take those students that then take maybe perhaps five years, occasionally, the sixth year, if you were to, like, add them together, I mean, then you're really kind of graduating what percentage of your kids? Probably significantly higher than 67 or whatever it was.

 $\label{eq:MS.STEPHANIE BECKER: In the 80s, I'm pretty sure.}$

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: That's where you want to be. I'm so glad you're not just moving them out. And when you know they're not quite ready, you know, need to stay just a little bit longer.

read lots of letters of recommendation, filling out -- people filling out applications. They can't write to save their lives. And they've graduated from a New Mexico high school.

And it makes me crazy. Because growing up -- and I was fortunate to go to schools when that was a focus. We even made, at Santa Fe public for a while, writing across the curriculum a focus when Joe Boyd was the superintendent. No matter what subject you were taking, there's always writing assignments attached to that subject.

It's a skill like everything else. If you read a lot, you learn to write well. My mom taught me that when I was younger. Not that I read a lot, but, yeah.

So, curiously, where does U.S. specifically, U.S. History fit into your curriculum? MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: We teach U.S.

History in the tenth grade. We use a history curriculum; it's called "Facing History and Ourselves," where it's more about depth than it is a lot of breadth. In tenth grade, they start with Reconstruction and move into the Civil War and start looking at civil rights movements over the course of

the whole year in tenth grade.

And, yes. Commissioner Beck wants to quickly comment on that.

SECRETARY BECK: I'm really glad you answered the way you did. That was really great, because, again, as a twelve-year teacher at Sandia High School, I know the pressure there is to, you know, try to get those graduation rates up.

And you're doing the right thing, because the kids aren't going to have to go to remediation, you know, and have to deal with all that.

And the stress and pressure in college in their first year of college, you've remedied that.

So that was a great answer. I loved that, by the way.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Thank you, Commissioner Beck.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Thank you for doing that.

The -- you mentioned Emese.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Emese.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Emese, yes. I wrote down here, "critical thinking and writing." The writing part.

Commissioner Brauer, it's amazing. When I've, in different jobs, had the opportunities to

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: The reason I ask that is 'cause recently -- you might want to look at this article, because it's fantastic. I feel like I had too much coffee.

It's in The Atlantic. And it's really about -- and I'm not commenting on whatever happened, you know, a week ago Tuesday. But it's just, generally speaking, Americans are kind of clueless as to their own history and world history.

And that's happened over generations and decades that we've made so many other things priorities that, slowly, history, geography, civics, all these things that Jefferson said that are incredibly necessary to have a democratic society we've basically just left in the parking lot.

It is fascinating -- the article -- I would encourage you. It's in The Atlantic. I tried to pull it up, and I couldn't get the author's name.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: I'll find it.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: The learning of U.S. and other histories teaches us judgment more than anything else. 'Cause we -- everything we're going through now in this country, we've gone through before, a couple of times. And you've got to know we've been there before and got out the other side.

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That's why I asked about U.S. History because I just think it's so critical.

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Okay. This dual language -- this dual -let me bring this up -- this dual credit thing. It says C-minus. The mission -- the dual credit -they can take dual credit classes with a C-minus or better.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: So they cannot pass a class with a D. So when they're taking a dual credit class, to be able to get credit for it with us, they have to have a --

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: C-minus. Because I know that's, unfortunately, passing. That's why, when I was on the board up here, there was somebody else on the board that we focused on proficiency, not grad rate. You can walk a bunch of kids. That's what they did during COVID. They walked a bunch of kid, dozens and dozens, with D averages and gave them diplomas. That's just abhorrent.

Okay. Just wanted to ask about that.

Then I was in the -- the -- in the video, where lots of the kids spoke -- and when I say kids, I kind of say that just colloquially. I don't mean you're, like, kids. Obviously, you're young men and women embarking on your future; right?

support -- I don't know how I want to work out the math thing, though, the condition. We'll see what the others think.

Treasurer Wintrode, I agree completely with what Commissioner Brauer said. And you can get in touch with Director Chavez about working your way into the next charter conference. Because we really -- you'll see it's been a priority for us this last year and a half or so.

Because where boards start to fail, schools definitely start to fail. You're doing something right, obviously. You're not the only one with all this tenure on the board; right? And how long have you been board president?

(Off-mic response.)

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Oh. I was going to say longer than five. That's what makes a school flourish, when boards have continuity.

So anything you can do to get with Director Chavez and other board leaders so we have some sessions in that next conference on, you know, just learning by example, sharing out what you do that works so others can do it.

So thank you so much.

That's all for me for now unless I have a

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1 Columbo moment. 2

THE CHAIR: I actually had a good friend who called me and said, "Pattie, I'm going to open up a charter school."

I said, "Good for you."

"And it's going to be civics. That's all we're going to teach is civics."

I said, "What are you going to do with everything else?"

"We don't want to do everything else."

"Well, you go and open a private school and do whatever you want to do."

And I sent them the application, and I never heard from them about that again, you know. Because it's like, no, you're not going to do that.

And I'm going to apologize. Because I actually talked about the school Tuesday, because I was at the NACSA conference. And I had a woman who was next to me at breakfast one morning was coming to New Mexico to deliver an award. Because she came last week? It was a community grant?

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Uh-huh.

THE CHAIR: It's, like, how great. She was so excited, because I guess it's a grant you've applied for several times, and you got it, but not

Every one, there was a theme about being seen and being supported and -- and reaching out to kids to broaden how they see themselves and what -what are the possibilities.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Uh-huh.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: So I was really happy to hear that. Yeah, that's kind of the gushing part.

The -- I was, one time, thinking, like, what if I got off this Commission and opened a charter school? And I thought to myself it would be -- the school would be a leadership, public policy, and political science, called "Citizen One," was the concept. But I'm not going to do it. It takes so long -- now that I know the process, it's like, oh, my God.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: I'm sure Emece would be happy to help you out with that.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: But the application process -- you're doing that. And I'm so happy to hear about the way that students are thinking about diplomacy, all of these -- just, you're doing it. But I would -- probably would still love to have something like that in Santa Fe.

So, absolutely, you know, going to

exactly in the same --

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: We finally got the money after about three times.

MS. ALDIS PHILIPBAR: We were very persistent.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: The Impact Award for Community Engagement. Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Congratulations. We've been fortunate, because this week has been pretty easy, you know, because we've been able to celebrate the schools.

I am that person who does know that math is useful. It'll never be fun. The fun part is never going to come into it. I get that it's -- I'm a history teacher. So I'm a humanities person.

But I was -- I mentioned to Commissioners yesterday that I had to go to a meeting on Saturday to basically justify to some folks why charter schools exist.

And there was a legislator there. And they were talking about the problems in education and the inequity in education in schools.

And one of the legislators said, "Well, the problem with our scores in New Mexico is poverty."

every place where we are a better place.

And I think that's what so many of our charters -- it may not be expressed in their mission. But their goal is to make those better people, because we have to do whatever we can do to make this world a better place, you know.

And that's what is often not celebrated enough about our schools and the good human beings that are coming out of those schools. And it's not just -- yeah. It's not just that number in the Vistas score, you know, because those are important.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Of course.

THE CHAIR: You know. And -- you know. But the fact that if it's not working for this child now, it doesn't matter how we're going to get dinged by it; we're going to do right by that person.

So I appreciate that so much about the school.

And this is honestly the first time that I can remember that we have a governing council member that came up and spoke so eloquently about the finances of the school. I haven't had a business manager, honestly, be able to do it, because they look at it from a different lens. They're just looking at it as the -- you know, the black and

white on the paper.

And they're -- they don't often look at it as the servicing piece.

But the fact that a governance council is so deeply engaged in the conversation about how we're going to serve our kids -- and I appreciate, and I know many of our schools had to go through that really, really difficult staffing issue when ESSER funds started to go.

And it was -- you know, it was tragic, it was, because so often it was those pieces of the servicing of the student, the SEL pieces, that had to go away with some schools, because they needed to keep the academic staffing.

So it's tough. But the fact that the governing council is so deeply engaged in the conversation of how we're going to do it, I think that partnership is just, unfortunately, very unique, you know.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: I feel like I'm the most fortunate of leaders because of our strong collaborative approach. We work really well together. And I feel so enormously supported by our terrific board.

THE CHAIR: And the fact that your

And I was appalled, because it's, like, saying, "Poor kids can't learn," you know. And that's not it. And come to our charter schools and look at the work that charter schools are doing.

Especially, you know, I appreciate Amy Biehl, not just for the work that you've done and the consistent work that you've done, but you embrace the urban essence of the school.

And I think that's what's so cool about Amy Biehl as well, that, you know, you are purposeful in where that school is situated and embracing the good, the bad, and the ugly that comes with being in an urban environment.

I don't know. Do you still do a scavenger hunt --

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Oh, yes. THE CHAIR: -- at the beginning of the year? I always thought that was the greatest thing, that they do a scavenger hunt around the city so the kids learn about the city that they're in.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: It's fun. THE CHAIR: Yeah, you know. And it's that -- embracing, in that there are scary things about cities, but we have to -- if this is where

we're going to be, and we have to -- we have to make

performance framework ratings were almost all green.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Almost.

THE CHAIR: Almost. As we're embracing this, it's, like, yeah, but there's the red. But we're good. We're good. So thank you -- just thank you to everyone.

It was just -- you know, it's why we're -this is why we do what we do, you know, to be able
to hear from the schools and see, you know, how
schools are -- and the fact that we hear from the
alumna is really important, because so often, you
know, especially, I think, with traditional schools,
the kids leave, and they're just gone.

And the fact that they care still so much about the school that they'll take the time out to come back and talk about it speaks volumes to, you know, the -- the impression that that school will make, lifetime, on those people. So thank you.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: I just want to point out, too, that two of those folks in that video serve on our board. Cesar is on our governing board.

THE CHAIR: I didn't connect the names.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: And Ava Montoya is on our foundation board; so, yeah.

COMMISSIONER INGHAM: That's what -- that was my question, is that, typically, when you have a 100-year-old building -- which is probably close to 100 years old, isn't it? Over 100 old.

You have systems issues that are sometimes really problematic. And my concern was that you had made some efforts -- because PSFA has impressed on me. Any people moving into older facilities, they really want you to be aware of the situation and that it -- there are some tragic problems that happen and which leave you just completely in trouble.

So I would just ask. Have you done, like, some of your systems -- your sanitary sewer and stuff like that?

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Oh, yes. Our Five Years Facilities Master Plan has the list of things we aim to do and things we've already completed over the last three of the five years.

We just keep on top of it. Whether it's making sure our HVAC system is up to grade and doing what it needs to do; it's actually automated so it's energy efficient.

Randy Miranda, our building manager, used to work at the Convention Center, so he has an

THE CHAIR: That's great. Thank you.
 Commissioner Ingham.

COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Boy, I hate to be the downer. I just want to ask something, because I'm -- I'm the facilities guy.

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Okay.

COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Okay. And, frankly, your facility is a lovely place and incredible, but scary, in that it's very old and the systems are

very old.

And I just was wondering. Does your -who -- do you -- are you on a lease-purchase on that? Or do you -- what's your arrangement for your lease on that?

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: I'm going to go? Or you want to go. I'll have our foundation director tell you.

MS. ALDIS PHILIPBAR: Our foundation owns the building. So 2016, then Congresswoman Lujan-Grisham had legislation passed that allowed us to purchase the building from the federal government, and then we entered into a lease-purchase agreement with the school. And we have a terrific building manager who goes above and

enormous amount of facilities knowledge.

COMMISSIONER INGHAM: That gives me a lot of confidence. So many schools that -- we have facilities that are really struggling; so...

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: We are careful with our capital budget, and yet we're not afraid to spend what we need to spend to make sure that the building is up to code and in great shape for the next 100 years.

COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Awesome. Thank you. I don't feel like it's such a downer now.

THE CHAIR: Commissioner Taylor.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah. I won't rehash the fantastic-ness of your school, because it -- I mean you all are doing a great job. But I just do want to say that I would not support any kind of condition for -- for math.

I mean, the intentionality with the way that you're approaching things, the "all hands on deck," you know, all of the things that you're doing to try to do that, your experience, your competence, your -- you know, I think it's an overreach on our part, I think, to place a condition on you guys for -- for math. So --

MS. STEPHANIE BECKER: Thank you,

beyond.

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|--|--|--|---|
| 1 | Commissioner Taylor. | 1 | COMMISSIONER MANIS: Yes. |
| 2 | VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Okay. I take it | 2 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Armijo. |
| 3 | back. | 3 | (No response.) |
| 4 | THE CHAIR: Commissioner Brauer. | 4 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Taylor. |
| 5 | COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Thank you. Don't | 5 | COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. |
| 6 | worry, Commissioner Carrillo. I wasn't going to | 6 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Burt. |
| 7 | listen to you anyhow. I'm just going to | 7 | COMMISSIONER BURT: Yes. |
| 8 | Commissioners, I move that the Public Education | 8 | SECRETARY BECK: Vice Chair Carrillo. |
| 9 | Commission approve the renewal application for the | 9 | VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Yes. |
| 10 | Amy Biehl High School for a five-year term without | 10 | SECRETARY BECK: Chair Gipson. |
| 11 | conditions. | 11 | THE CHAIR: Yes. |
| 12 | THE CHAIR: There's a motion by | 12 | SECRETARY BECK: Secretary Beck, yes. |
| 13 | Commissioner Brauer, and a second by Commissioner | 13 | There are nine votes for, zero votes against. The |
| 14 | Gipson. | 14 | motion passes. Congratulations. |
| 15 | Okay. I didn't say that. | 15 | THE CHAIR: Thank you very much. And we |
| 16 | VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: It's not a Columbo | 16 | are in recess until 10:30. |
| 17 | moment. It's, just, I didn't know anything about | 17 | (Recess taken, 9:38 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.) |
| 18 | your school till today. | 18 | The MASTERS Program. |
| 19 | THE CHAIR: Oh, yeah. You can't. Sorry. | 19 | MS. SHANNON WHITNEY: Hi. My name is |
| 20 | VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: I'm not asking them | 20 | Shannon Whitney, and I teach the Friday Orchestra |
| 21 | anything, because after motions, you can't talk. | 21 | Service Project at TMP. It's the first year we've |
| 22 | So don't think of commenting on what I'm | 22 | had an orchestra at TMP that I know of. |
| 23 | saying. | 23 | It's my first year at TMP, and I've just |
| 24 | The renewal process allows us to learn | 24 | been so grateful to get to know this amazing group |
| 25 | about schools we would never ever learn about that | 25 | of students and teachers. |
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| 1 | we only see them on paper. And I'm just thrilled to | 1 | We just have a few select players today |
| 1 2 | we only see them on paper. And I'm just thrilled to | 1 | We just have a few select players today |
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| 2 3 | learn all of this about your school that I didn't know and that all of you were here. | 2 3 | who will play a very short Welsh folk song for you called "Ash Grove." |
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MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: There's two names, space, no hyphen. H-a-a-s and M-o-s-k-o-w-i-t-z. And The MASTERS Program. I have the role of superintendent/head of school.

MS. CHERYL ROMERO: Good morning. My name is Cheryl Romero, last name spelled R-o-m-e-r-o. I'm one of the co-principals.

MR. CHRISTOPHER DE JESUS: My name is Christopher De Jesus. D-e capital J-e-s-u-s. I am the options coordinator.

DR. KELLY TRUJILLO: Good morning. My name is Dr. Kelly Trujillo. T-r-u-j-i-l-l-o. I am the president of the governing council for TMP.

THE CHAIR: Thank you. So the Charter School Division will do their presentation. Then we open it in case there's someone here for tribal consultation. Then you'll have your 30 minutes to go, and then we'll open it up to public comment. And then it's our questions. Thanks.

Cheryl, is it?

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MS. CHERYL ROWE: Good morning, Chair Gipson and Commissioners. My name is Cheryl Rowe, Authorizing Practices Administrator for the Charter Schools Division. I'm here to provide the PED evaluation for The MASTERS Program.

and their Vistas score increased substantially from 2021-'22 to 2022-'23 from 59 to 82.2. MASTERS received Designations of Excellence in '22-'23 for performance in ELA, science, ELA growth, math growth, English Learner progress, and college and year readiness.

In 2021-'22 and 2022-'23, MASTERS outperformed the State and district in reading, math, and science.

MASTERS' graduation rates are also on par or better than those reported for the district and State.

Additionally, the PED has published the Spring 2024 assessment results.

The school's Vistas designation is again Spotlight. Proficiencies have declined in math, ELA, and science. Graduation rates went up slightly.

Their overall Vistas score dropped last year from 82.2 to 66.4; however, as I've previously mentioned, according to Vistas, points totals from school year '22-'23 and school year '23-'24 cannot be compared due to changes in business rules.

About the drop. TMP leadership and teachers shared that they have had an increase of

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CSD conducted our renewal visit to The MASTERS Program on September 23rd, 2024. Director Corina Chavez, Lucy Valenzuela, Kristen LaVolpa, and I visited the school in person, and Martica Davis and Ken Norris joined remotely.

The MASTERS Program opened in 2010 with the Public Education Commission as their authorizer. This is their third renewal application with the PEC.

The MASTERS Program is committed to the development of engaged, compassionate students who value academic excellence in education beyond high school, service to others, and creating a conscious community.

The Charter Schools Division recommends that The MASTERS Program be renewed for a term of five years without conditions.

The recommendation is based on the record of the school's performance over the course of the contract term, the renewal application, which highlights adult actions and programs in the service of student progress, and verification of those programs and adult actions during our renewal site visit and annual visits.

The MASTERS Program is a Spotlight School,

students enrolling with learning gaps in English and math, especially among English Learner and special education students.

they have responded to this by hiring a new EL director, additional EL and special ed instructors, a reading interventionist, and have started sheltered classes for special ed, 504 students, and other students who need support to provide a smaller, more supportive setting.

TMP has implemented a school-wide MLSS system and provides abundant PD for teachers.

Moreover, TMP has communicated with SFCC and designed improved pathways.

TMP also added an advisory period, learning lab, and student tutoring for added support. And both TMP and SFCC teachers and advisers are available for help during office hours.

The finance indicator ratings in the last year of the contract term reflect that the school has struggled in this area. The school has had eight audit findings over the course of the charter term, including six findings in the most recent audit.

The school has had only one repeat finding, and no significance deficiency or material

weakness findings during the contract term.

2.

The school has contracted with a new business manager, effective this fiscal year, who is working with the head administrator to improve financial processes at the school.

The MASTERS Program has maintained a full governing board for the duration of the charter term. For the last two years, all board members completed all training hours.

For the duration of the contract, most notifications have been timely.

The board described an effective plan in place to complete all training hours and comply with board requirements. The board has also recorded and posted their governing board meetings on their website for this school year, '24-'25, so far.

The school's ratings on Part B of the renewal application are as follows:

They Met the Standards on student outcomes, educational program, and equity and identity.

They Demonstrated Substantial Progress in governance responsibilities and other performance framework indicators.

They Failed to Demonstrate Progress in

Therefore, the leadership and staff developed strategies to prepare students for college-level courses, setting them up for success once they are ready.

In spite of not having met the goal, MASTERS students take a great number of dual credit courses, and they generally do well since they have ample support and preparation. But the school did not meet the target and did not amend the goal.

During site visits, CSD has observed a robust educational program in place. Students have rich opportunities to participate in pre-college experiences in collaboration with SFCC and earn dual credit.

The students expressed great enthusiasm for the variety of offerings available to them that meet every type of career objective, learning style, or interest they might have.

Moreover, the educational program has evolved under the new leader, as they have identified changing needs of the students. For example, service learning has replaced Friday projects, which goes beyond community service as the students have a chance to reflect on their experience, learn from it, and even become leaders

1 in their service projects.

In addition, the advisory program has replaced Thursday morning meetings, which includes enriching SEL experiences and conversation.

As mentioned, the school has continuously provided professional development opportunities for staff and supported the collaboration and growth of staff through PLCs.

CSD attributes some of the recent tensions and dips in performance to leadership changes, which have caused some growing pains at the school.

In discussions with school leadership, they have taken responsibility for the issues and have shared their commitment to making improvements and doing what is best for students.

In short, The MASTERS Program provides a much needed, highly -- high school option to Santa Fe families in terms of academic offerings, college credit opportunities, and a caring staff dedicated to strong relationships and the progress of the students.

Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Is there anyone here for tribal consultation?

MS. MELISSA BROWN: I do not see anybody

mission-specific goals and financial compliance.

The school's rating for financial compliance is Failing to Demonstrate Progress because a rating of Demonstrates Substantial Progress in the renewal application rating requires data showing improvement. This is an example of when a rating in between Demonstrates and Failing would have been helpful.

Audit indicators align by a year. So the process improvement actions the school has put into place, which CSD has confirmed during the renewal visit, are not yet reflected in the annual audit and will be released in the spring.

While the school did not meet the targets outlined in their mission-specific goals, they have taken numerous adult actions to improve outcomes for student readiness for college.

MASTERS did a root cause analysis, hired a college and career adviser, obtained a CTE grant, partnered with SFCC and IAIA, for dual credit, and bolstered support in special ed and MLSS.

The leadership team learned quickly that the goal was not realistic nor helpful for some of the students, as some students were not ready to take college classes.

86 1 who has raised their hand indicating they are here 1 Please introduce yourself. 2 for tribal consultation. FROM THE FLOOR: I'm am Justin (audio 2 THE CHAIR: Thank you. distortion). I am a freshman representative on the 3 3 4 4 The school has 30 minutes, and Missy keeps Student Council. 5 5 FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. Thank you time. 6 MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: We have the video 6 for the opportunity of being here. I am (audio 7 7 next. We have a video for you. distortion), and I'm a sophomore representative. 8 8 MS. MELISSA BROWN: Please spell your last Yes. Okay. And now we have a video. 9 9 MS. MELISSA BROWN: I have my list, and I names for the court reporter. 10 10 was ignoring it because I was trying to respond to FROM THE FLOOR: Newhall, N-e-w-h-a-l-l. 11 Rafe Martinez. 11 FROM THE FLOOR: Valdivia, 12 12 (Video is played). V-a-l-d-i-v-i-a. FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. My name is 13 MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Thank you. Next up, 13 14 14 we have our three ambassadors and our student Cesar Delgado Terrazas. I am a freshman senator for 15 leadership council, with Ernest Kavanaugh here to 15 The MASTERS Program, and it is great honor to be 16 16 here. My last name is D-e-l-g-a-d-o bring them up and provide some introductions. 17 MR. ERNEST KAVANAUGH: Good morning. 17 T-e-r-r-a-z-a-s. Thank you. 18 18 Buenos días. Is it good? FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. My name is Alexia Schwade, S-c-h-w-a-d-e. I'm a junior here 19 THE CHAIR: Yeah. You're fine. 19 20 20 MR. ERNEST KAVANAUGH: So first of all, with Freedom Ambassadors. 21 21 thank you for the opportunity for us to be here with FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. Thank you 22 you all. When I looked behind and looked in front, 22 for the opportunity to be here. I'm Susana 23 23 what I just saw from the video is just a taste. Gallegos, G-a-l-l-e-g-o-s. I am a junior here at 24 24 The MASTERS Program, and am also part of Freedom It's a sample when you go to TMP. 25 25 Ambassadors. When you go to TMP, it's much, much more. 87 89 1 1 What is much, much more is what's right behind me. FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. My name is 2 2 The Freedom Ambassadors that I was privileged to (inaudible) Natseway, N-a-t-s-e-w-a-y. I'm in ninth 3 reinstitute, because I was at Santa Fe Community 3 grade and a part of Freedom Ambassadors. 4 4 College for 25, 30 years. When I was retired, I was FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning, everyone. 5 5 always running programs from the college and the My name is Hayley Mora, M-o-r-a. I'm a sophomore 6 high school, dual enrollment, creating the leaders 6 and I'm part of Freedom Ambassadors. 7 7 of today so you have the leaders of tomorrow. FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. I'm 8 8 honored to be here. My name is Ethan Mendez, The leaders of today are -- you see my 9 Freedom Ambassadors will be in black. I have the 9 M-e-n-d-e-z. And I'm a Freedom Ambassador. 10 10 Student Leadership Council for the last year and a FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning, everyone. 11 11 half that I have developed. It's a pleasure to be here. My name is Luis Valdez, 12 12 You will hear from these students. V-a-l-d-e-z. I am a junior at The MASTERS Program 13 13 They're strong; they're vibrant. If I could take and I'm also a Freedom Ambassador. 14 14 FROM THE FLOOR: Hello. My name is Ethan them to Washington and teach those folks how to do a 15 few things, they could do it without a doubt. 15 Lopez, L-o-p-e-z. And I am proud to be a Freedom 16 Having the support staff, faculty, and 16 Ambassador at The MASTERS Program. 17 17 admin, they're nothing short of excellent. These FROM THE FLOOR: Hi. I am (audio 18 18 distortion) Ruiz, R-u-i-z. I'm a freshman and a folks really make an impact. 19 I have my council. I could sit right up 19 Freedom Ambassador. 20 20 FROM THE FLOOR: Hi. I'm (audio with you all, and I would love to see them. You are 21 21 welcome at our school any time. distortion) Vigil, V-i-g-i-l. It's a pleasure to 22 22 meet you all, and I am a sophomore at TMP. Mr. Carrillo, he's been there. He knows; 23 23 FROM THE FLOOR: I am Isabella Fairchild, he's seen. So with that being said, again, thank 24 24 you (Spanish spoken). F-a-i-r-c-h-i-l-d. And I am a sophomore 25 25 You guys ready? representative.

FROM THE FLOOR: My name is Michael Werber, W-e-r-b-e-r. I'm a junior, and I am also a Freedom Ambassador.

FROM THE FLOOR: Pleasure to meet you all. My name is Willow Schwartz-Szeto. Schwartz, S-c-h-w-a-r-t-z. Szeto, S-z-e-t-o. And I am a

senior senator on the Student Leadership Council.

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. My name is Portia Russo, R-u-s-s-o. I'm a junior senator, and I am also the board representative of the Student Leadership Council.

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. Thank you for having us. My name is Johni Gallegos.

G-a-l-l-e-g-o-s. And I am a junior representative on the Student Leadership Council and a proud

on the Student Leadership Council and a proud Freedom Ambassador.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hello and good morning. My name is (audio distortion) Gallegos, G-a-l-l-e-g-o-s. I am a freshman representative on the Student Council, along with being a Freedom Ambassador.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hello. I am Jacob Lucero, L-u-c-e-r-o. And I am a junior member of the Freedom Ambassadors.

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. My name

high school. But when I heard that there is a
 program that allows us to have a college readiness
 program, I was very happy, because I -- my dreams
 are to go to eventually graduate school and
 hopefully get my Ph.D.

So having this college readiness program has allowed me to expand my interests, look into different career paths that I might be interested, and then be able to grow on that.

So through TMP, I have found my love for biology, and I am currently working on getting my associate's degree in biology by the time I graduate next semester.

And I give everything to TMP and their staff. They have helped me get scholarships, helped me grow as a person.

Before, I was very scared and timid, and I didn't talk to anyone. I had one or two friends. But now I have an entire council behind me. I have Ernest in my back pocket.

I also -- sorry -- I have made so many connections here. And I would love for TMP to be renewed for another five years.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hello again. Thank you for having all of us, and thank you for the

1 Alex Perez. It's P-e-r-e-z. And I'm part of the

Freedom Ambassador -- Freedom Ambassadors program at

TMP. Sure.

FROM THE FLOOR: First off, you know, thank you for having us. Thank you for letting us be here.

Some things I'd like to say about the school is TMP, it's an amazing high school. It's a great program to have. The opportunities that we get here, you can't really get anywhere out of state.

We have individualized learning programs, college -- I guess -- what would it be? -- like pre-college progress and everything like that. Currently, I'm a junior. I've explored many career paths in agriculture, engineering, and now going into psychology.

And I think the school's really great. You can't find anything else like it in Santa Fe. And I'm hopefully, going to graduate and go to a four-year university.

FROM THE FLOOR: Thank you all again for having us here. I want to talk about TMP, because when I first heard about this program, I was ecstatic. I was really nervous about going into

opportunity to speak. I would just like to say that it is my first year at TMP as a sophomore. And I'd like to say that this is the first time I've actually brought home a report card that I'm proud of, due to, like, the staff at TMP.

They are challenging classes, but I'm happy to do that. I'm happy for the challenge. I'm happy for the support I always get at TMP.

I'm actually understanding math now. And it's really exciting. And through TMP, I found an interest in law and politics, which I never thought I would have wanted to get into. But with TMP and with Ernest's help, I saw that, and now I want to pursue law and politics. And I'm just really happy to be at TMP. Thank you.

FROM THE FLOOR: I'd like to start off with saying thank you for having us again. And The MASTERS Program holds a very special place in my heart.

So as a freshman, I didn't start there. I started at a small school that was local to my community, two and a half hours north from here. My older sister was a junior at the time. I was a freshman.

And she threatened to drop out of high

school because that school was not for her; it just wasn't working. So what my father did was he got on his phone and called Mr. Kavanaugh.

And Mr. Kavanaugh said, "Apply for The MASTERS Program, send them down here, and even if you can't be we them, I'll help them, and I'll be by their side."

Ernest not only was by my side the entire year last year, but he brought me on for second year, and now I have my little sister here with me.

My older sister was able to graduate from this amazing program, and this has given me not just a whole other opportunity, but an entire other part of me that I didn't know of.

I grew up on the ranch. I was always very involved in 4H. And this program gives me an opportunity to step away from 4H and to learn more leadership skills and to bring other opportunities, not only for myself, but for my family.

And I have friends that are interested in applying to the school because of the amazing opportunities we have.

And I was just overjoyed to be here. I am super excited to graduate, hopefully, next year. And I'm really proud to say that not only my older

that students form with their teachers.

You see students saying hi to teachers at stores, you know. They're not scared of them when they see them outside of school. And it just fosters a real deep connection and where students are actually engaging with the material on a deeper level.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hello. To be part of The MASTERS Program has been a great honor. Not only has it introduced opportunities to all my goals and dreams with the chance of being part of college classes, but being able to discover new opportunities with college classes.

I'm a freshman, and I have the whole world ahead of us regarding classes that we might want to take and new college classes that we might get introduced to.

Having the chance to have (audio distortion) like students from high grades share their stories and how they got introduced to new topics, new opportunities, have honestly (audio distortion) me to the possibilities that I might face. And being part of The MASTERS Program has been (audio distortion) something (audio distortion) opportunities I might have. And thank you again.

sister graduated from this program, but my little sister has the opportunity to do so. Thank you.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hello and thank you again for letting us come here today. My name is Bonnie Gallegos, B-o-n-n-i-e.

I'd like to thank you guys and talk about my school.

So I've never really been a school person. I've always hated school, and I've never been good at it. Due to The MASTERS Program, I have finally been interested in my classes. I have decent grades that I didn't have before. I've connected with the teachers in a whole different way.

And TMP has definitely found a place in m heart as well. Johni Gallegos is my older sister, and if it weren't for her and my other older sister, I would not be able to come here to this school.

And I'd like to thank all my teachers for helping me this year, and I do hope to graduate in the next four years. So thank you.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hello. Thank you for having us. My name is Jacob Lucero. J-a-c-o-b. And one thing that I think TMP excels at more than probably -- well, that's a generalization -- but more than most charter schools is the connection

FROM THE FLOOR: My name is Luiz. L-U-I-Z. I haven't experienced (Spanish spoken.)

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. S-t-a-r. I came to The MASTERS Program. I wasn't sure what to expect. And I was still thinking about going

back to my old school. But I had my older sister here with me. And I would go to some of the Freedom Ambassador events with them. And I thought it seemed really cool.

So I decided to come here anyways, and I'm so glad that I did because I love this school a lot more than any other place that I've been.

TMP is like a community to me. It's like a home. And I've never felt more like I belong anywhere else other than TMP, and I'm so glad that I have the opportunity to come here and hopefully to graduate from here, because I plan on staying here for the rest of my high school years, and I'm only a freshman.

So my opportunities are just going to get bigger and bigger as I go to my sophomore year and my junior year. And then, you know -- yeah. Thank you.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hello again. My name is Nevaeh, N-e-v-a-e-h. The MASTERS Program has been

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such a blessing to me. It has helped me step out of my comfort zone. It has opened so much doors to me and helping me lead up to my future careers; for example, I plan on being an event planner -- or a party planner.

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And a role that I'm trying to accomplish is being the creative director of events and visions for TMP. And each year -- or each day that I'm experiencing, it's helping me grow and lead up to that. I don't know where I would be without TMP

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hey, again. My name is Ethan Mendez. Most of you guys know me. But -- oh, sorry.

I am a freshman, and I just wanted to talk about The MASTERS Program and what it has done for

When I first entered the school, I was really nervous and I was really scared. But I met Ernest, like -- what? -- two years ago, because of my sister. And I really got comfortable, like, the first month.

And I have a lot of people that look up to me, especially teachers, like Shannon and Rhonda, Roxanne, and Joanne. They have teached me a lot of

I just want to speak on TMP. (Audio distortion) is my aunt. She had graduated, and she told me of opportunities, and I decided I should come here for my sophomore year. And I realized that this school does not just have educational opportunities, because I don't know what I want to do when I'm older. I'm not going to lie.

But I know that this program has a lot of opportunities for me to learn. And I had been looking at the other options they had initially. And this is so cool. I didn't even get just education opportunities; I got opportunities to meet amazing people that I have grown to really care about and the teachers.

And I'm just -- I hope we can have another five years, because the school is amazing, and I think that other people should have opportunities.

Thank you.

DR. KAYLEIGH CARBAJAL: You're so special -- oh.

I have -- okay. I have about twenty -oh. Further away.

I have about twenty more kids that aren't here out of one group, Freedom Ambassadors. Another about ten, fifteen kids out of my Student Council.

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things and have teached me especially to be myself.

And I'm really honored to be a part of that community. And I just want other kids like me to have a chance at that, 'cause most kids out there I feel like are not being heard by other teachers.

And, again, five more years.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hello again. My name is Ethan Lopez. And I would just like to add more to what my other friend said, which is the other Ethan.

The teachers really are great here. They help you a lot. (Spanish spoken.) They try to find everything in you so they can better help you out.

A great example would be my math teacher, Ms. Sabrina. I really appreciate her because she has teached me a lot of math. I couldn't understand fractions at all, and she has helped me through my way there. (Spanish spoken.)

Not only the teachers help, but everyone is just so helpful around. You can see a teacher in the hallway, and they will say hi to you. They won't be in a bad mood. They won't be stressed for you. They'll be there with you, happy for you, and happy to be there with you as well.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hello, everybody. My name is Hayley. Thank you for having me.

What I want you to know is they asked can they do something that recognizes who they are, if I may.

And I want to recognize Roxanne, 4

Dr. Seagraves back there. She's my partner, where we create all these incredible leaders.

Dr. Seagraves, you guys ready?

We go -- (shouting). They really are somebody. So thank you.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Thank you so much for that and for welcoming our leaders into this room and this space.

And we have our PowerPoint next where we will go over our program in response to some of the questions from all of you.

And I think you've got that slide show. That's all we need. We'll wrap up. This won't take too long.

So this slide show has a lot of information that I think that you already have, but I'm not going to read it. But we want to show our appreciation, and we're here to answer questions as well as present.

23 There we go. There's our beginning. Very 24 nice. Okay. Thank you. 25

So that is our mission statement, which

you've heard in various languages, and I think that you know it, and we know it.

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Those are our Vistas scores. I think, as discussed, and as predicted, we would -- we would probably take a dip for a variety of reasons. And my feeling about that is when I -- I've only been at the school for about a year and a half.

And my experience in schools, especially small schools that are highly relational and provide safe spaces for students to become themselves, which I think you've heard here, there's a diversity of people that come to our school. And we welcome that diversity. We welcome all of them.

And so as a result, we have increased numbers of students that represent different learning styles, different approaches to assessments, and as a result, I think we need more assessments. That's why I brought Matt in so we can learn from the results of those assessments. So I think in time, we're going to see them come back up again.

Again, these are scores that measure only a fraction of what our students are and what they can do. We're not surprised by the dip, and we embrace it as an opportunity to grow.

And there's a lot of research on that, and we were doing it. And we're working with Davis and others to create some rubrics. And we'll be doing that with the students. And we'll have different measurements. And we're excited about the shift. So that is what I have to say about that.

And I think this nice little flow chart shows that we really focused the last year and a half on needs assessments, on organizational auditing and looking at job descriptions, just leadership structures, just ways to make the school operate and to fulfill its mission and vision in the best possible way. And that has been really a very, I think, fulfilling and encouraging and inspiring process to watch unfold.

So our priorities have shifted, that we are, again, looking at what does it really mean to be prepared. And so when I was hired, I noticed that our ninth graders were invited to participate fully in college classes, which, on paper, is great. And we want to encourage our ninth graders to do that.

But that left their schedules looking like college schedules, which means they had large gaps of time. So, instead, what we did is we encouraged

Next slide.

So yes, the mission-specific goals, my favorite topic for TMP.

So when I found out that this was something in New Mexico -- this was a New Mexico thing, and then in the charter world, that we have mission-specific goals, which makes sense, I didn't feel that the goal itself was one that resonated for me.

The number of students to be placed in college classes, although easy to count and maybe measure, would not necessarily reflect our mission and vision. So is that -- you want to do -- okay? Is that better?

And we were more interested in showing an increase of college and career readiness rather than number of students that we put in classes. And so we discussed whether we would amend that particular goal. We knew this was our renewal year, and we opted to just communicate as clearly as we could to anyone that listen, who came to visit.

The site visit (incomprehensible) that we were in the process of shifting that into creating more of a focus on how we prepare students to be ready for career and college.

our staff to actually teach sheltered or scaffolded college classes in the west wing, where we are. And they can take those and then work on using a variety of programs that would support them in time management, into decision-making, into setting their own short- and long-term goals.

And so -- and so we're going to really focus on making them better at being college students and, therefore, the retention would not -- would go up.

Okay. We're going to speed through this. We have -- again, I had mentioned that we

have sheltered dual credit classes. We offer those for all of our students. We also offer a fifth block, which is an after-school opportunity to do the same, and also build skills.

Next slide. Again, we do targeted structured supports that's driven by data, the assessments that we're using.

The fifth block is after school; that's new. And that's supportive of students who need just support in their classes during the day as well as opportunities to take additional classes for college credit.

We've beefed up advisory, which we feel is

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really important. We are doing next-step-planning in student advisory as well as supporting students in their college classes and their high school classes.

And the equity is really important to us. As I said, we have developed a very comprehensive -and have been doing this since day one, since I've been there -- looking at what does it mean to serve all students through MLSS. We've had various forms of student assistance, student assistance teams. interventions. We've paired advisers, and we have co-teaching going on. So we have lots of ways to support students being successful in school.

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Now I'd like to turn it over to Axiom to do our financial report.

MS. KATIE RARICK: Hello, everyone --Missy, is this okay? Hello, everyone. My name is Katie Rarick, R-a-r-i-c-k. And I'm the business manager for The MASTERS Program.

So over the past years, they have changed business managers. They started with an in-house in 2020. They switched to another contractor, and they recently switched to us.

During that time, they also received eight

gains and support with instruction.

Next slide.

So we have clear procedures. It's listed in our policies and procedures that we've gone over with the board.

We are also working right now to craft some very specific TMP financial procedures that are also in compliance.

And we have a very robust finance committee that we work with at least once a month. sometimes twice a month, to make sure that the board and school leadership knows exactly what's going on on the financial side and that they can make strategic financial decisions in the best interests of the school and the students.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Two minutes.

DR. KELLY TRUJILLO: Hello again. I want to thank you for the opportunity to represent a group of very fine individuals who serve on the governing council for TMP, people who bring tremendous depth and breadth of knowledge to TMP and are dedicated to improving the school.

We've made a lot of changes this last year to amplify our efforts. We work in committees. We -- we have a division of labor.

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findings. But nothing was a material or significant deficiency. And right now we are working with the school to continue to increase their financial systems to make them stronger to reduce the number of findings going forward.

Next slide.

Okay. So some of the things that Axiom does is we make sure that every check that is cut, every payment that goes out, is authorized. And we have electronic systems for all of our revenue and our distributions.

In addition to that, we have multiple checks and division of labor that looks over everything. Axiom is organized in departments, so you have multiple eyes on every transaction. And we make sure that the board has the support they need with the financial information that they need to make the right decision.

Right now, we are working on a three- to five-year sustainable plan to make sure that not only does MASTERS use their resources for the classroom, but that it is sustainable, so at the end of the day, at the end of three to five years, they will continue to have a healthy reserve, but also allocating the right amount to help with academic

Our secretary, Dorianis Perez, keeps us on track with regards to our board training and all of the forms and whatnot that we have to have filled out for -- for the Department of Education.

More so, I think -- I feel like we have a really high morale as a board. We feel very confident that we are a very strong working group, and we're looking forward to this upcoming year.

FROM THE FLOOR: Next slide.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Okay. These are issues that came up through the State reporting. And we recognize some of them. And they were -we've corrected them.

So they had to do with -- with switch -anyway, they were technical issues that had to do with Social Security numbers that were misappropriated to different people.

We are working on that to improve our systems, and we feel very confident that we've adjusted those. All right. All yours.

MS. CHERYL ROMERO: Okey-doke. So initially, there was a division of special education and general education. But as we've gone through the past several years, most recently in the last year and a half, we have adjusted and realigned so

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that we can look at a MLSS approach, Multi-Layered Student Support, and not trying to isolate students.

And so we have then adjusted, created different -- drilled down to different areas looking at different populations: males, females, special education, students with disabilities, students without disabilities, ELL.

We are looking at first-year students who have come to TMP versus students who have been at TMP multiple years. We are drilling down all of those pieces. It's a broad range across all of our students and all of our staff.

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There was a complaint that was filed. And the State looked at it and decided that there was a finding. And we addressed the finding.

It was closed in September. And at this point in time, it took us a few weeks to do the additional training that was required, and we were able to complete that and we went on. And there are no other additional things that need to be addressed.

Next slide.

Thank you for allowing us to have this 30 minutes and this very brief little moment at the not going to misspell. I'm going to mispronounce names. my apologies for that.

Mia Roux.

And, remember, you need to spell your last name for the court reporter --

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning, everyone. My name is Mia Rue. (Native language spoken.) I am consul and ambassador of -- I am a consul and ambassador of women and children of the Choctaw Muskogee Yamassee Nation. I have a son who graduated from TMP in May, and a daughter who is currently a freshman at TMP, and I've had the privilege and honor of being one of the founding members of our parent family community council, and I serve on the leadership team of that council.

What I'd like to share with you is that from the very beginning, when I reached out to TMP, didn't know a lot about the school, but I knew it was an alternative option for my son, who was coming out of a rehabilitation program from the Taos Pueblo.

And I was met with such compassion and such openness to our circumstances. And my son was in a very difficult moment in his life. But through the embrace of this community, he not only graduated

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end. And we welcome any additional comments, questions. Thank you for having us.

THE CHAIR: Thank you. We're now on to Public Comment.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Yes, we are. We have three pages of people who signed up for public comment. But some, I believe, are ambassadors. I've crossed off some of your names as you spoke. I call you an ambassador, and you're already -- if you feel like "I've done my bit," just motion to me; right?

THE CHAIR: So we are going to ask people to truly hold to your two minutes, because of the -and we also have seven people online.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: We have seven people online.

As a matter of fact, we can start with them.

I want to play the sound that you will hear so that you all are aware, both online and in the room, of what the alarm to wrap it up is; okay?

You're going to hear bells. You guys are getting the benefit of everybody else that has gone before you and done it less than optimally.

So -- and if I am going to misspell -- I'm

from TMP, but he graduated a year early with two semesters of college credits.

And on his own will, he chose to engage in an alternative university called Cardo University. He is now a young business owner at the age of 18. He has started his own business and is an entrepreneur and is just a remarkable human being.

Witnessing my son's success, my -- his younger sister, who is now 15, decided that she wanted to pursue entry into TMP.

And all I can say is that her journey as well has been equally, if not more remarkable. The opportunities that she's had -- you know, in other schools, a student might say, "Oh, you know, I want an opportunity to try this thing." Maybe it's music; or maybe it's art.

Am I done? Okay.

What I want to say is the administration, the leadership of the school, and the teachers have been just absolutely above and beyond. And I'm so grateful to call myself a member of this community. Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Before you leave, could you spell your last name?

FROM THE FLOOR: R-u-e, Rue.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Next we have -- next we have Marqui Montoya Howland.

FROM THE FLOOR: Thank so you much for this wonderful opportunity. I feel very honored to be amongst fellow educators.

I'm an educator of 25 years myself. Montoya Howland. M-o-n-t-o-y-a and Howland, H-o-w-l-a-n-d.

And I think we've spoken so much about the academics, which are fabulous. But also each student comes so unique and with their own needs, talents, and everything. And I feel like TMP has been a sanctuary for our kiddos born and raised in Santa Fe. I think this is exactly what our community needs.

I feel like there's a school for every student, and I'm so grateful for this school to be the school for my student, my son.

I have an eleventh grader who has been at TMP since his freshman year. He went to the May Center, which is also a phenomenal program.

But I have felt like the bridge from eighth grade to ninth grade is huge, especially for a student who may be -- may be a lot more young and juvenile and maybe not ready for the high school FROM THE FLOOR: Thank you. Sarah, S-a-r-a-h. Weisberg, W-e-i-s-b-e-r-g.

I'm so happy to get to see -- way down, it looked like.

I'm a teacher. I think I'm representing -- I'm the teacher who's been there the longest at this point. I've seen incredible changes. And I think the changes have been for the best.

I'm really happy with our new -- our new governing council who's been amazing and also our new administrators who are wonderful. And it's taken some time. But what I've seen is just a huge coming together of people and ideas and the abilities to see where we need to improve and then be able to do that.

We have faced some adversity. And as any good organization knows, when that adversity comes up, we have to work to see what the -- what is being pointed out and work towards solving those problems.

And so I'm -- from what I've seen, we are working our butts off to do that.

And so thank you for hearing us, and that's all I really want to say.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Next we have Stephanie

experience.

And I think this has been just so special. Not only are there wonderful academics, there's activities. There are also programs for their interests, and talents, and maybe things they didn't know. I mean, they had playing cards class. They have athletic things. They have dances. They had -- just had a wonderful dance, by the way.

I feel like it's so inclusive. I don't see students being excluded in things. I feel like there's an honest effort to repair things that may need to be repaired.

And in a society right now that can just be so unclear sometimes, I just feel very grateful and appreciative to this program, and to Karla, her whole staff, to my -- to the board members, the parents, and everybody. And thank you all, also, for all that you do. Appreciate it.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Exactly on time, like you would expect from a teacher.

I also want you all to know that I don't start the timer until you've spelled your name. So don't start with a whole thing before that and then spell your name.

Okay. Sarah Weisberg.

Behning.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hello, everyone. I'm Stephanie Behning, B-e-h-n-i-n-g. And I am speaking to you as a mother at TMP.

I have two freshmen. My two children are eleven months apart so they have been in the same grade since they were in kindergarten. They've had a unique educational journey, as they went to school most of their life overseas. And so when we moved back to the U.S., it was very much of a culture shock for them. And they did have a difficult time acclimating to school in person in the U.S.

And so I had heard about TMP and how students had been very successful and happy and wanted to go to school. And (audio distortion) I was kind of, like, yeah, right. Really? Do you really want to go to school? I don't know. I don't quite believe it.

And so they were accepted into NMSA and into The MASTERS Program.

So I gave them the option to choose which school they wanted to go to.

And after touring TMP, they chose TMP. And the reason why is because they felt that they had so many opportunities, that they didn't have to

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be in one cohort, but they had the opportunity to expand and pursue a variety of interests.

And the word "inclusive" has been brought up, and it is real. It is a truly inclusive school. Both of my children have friends. Both of my children are part of a very supportive community. And they are both very unique people, and that does not always happen in a school. And as an educator, I have seen this over many, many years. And so I am just so grateful for The MASTERS Program and that my children are a part of it.

Thank you.

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MS. MELISSA BROWN: Next we have Kelley Koehler.

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. Kelley Koehler. That's K-e-l-l-e-y K-o-e-h-l-e-r.

Not one child should have to choose between their education and their well-being and their safety. I've really appreciated hearing all the wonderful comments about TMP, which I've had a good experience several years ago. But this wasn't the case this last year.

My daughter attended TMP this past year and was active in the Freedom Ambassadors leadership. I served on the TMP governing council, a stress-related heart condition. TMP reenrolled her a few days later, which proves her disenrollment was not only traumatizing, but illegal.

In January, I sent an e-mail to the GC raising concerns about the head of school being fired for harassment. I immediately received a cease-and-desist letter -- I apologize -- banning me from TMP. A defamating e-mail was circulated to TMP/SFCC staff, and I was (audio distortion), all for upholding GC duties to ask questions and request transparency.

Our active case numbers with the New Mexico Public Education Department -- I'm not sure what happened. I haven't been contacted since April.

Is the charter renewal committee ready to make the risk of more students, parents, and teachers being abused?

Thank you for your time today. I'm sorry for the news that I have to say. It's sad.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Next on our list is Theo -- yep. You can do it better than me. You can say it better than I can.

> FROM THE FLOOR: So it's C-e-r-i-d-w-e-n. So there are two things I want to address.

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was tasked with and cofounded the Parent Family Community. I was once an outspoken supporter of TMP, on record as praising the school in the Santa Fe New Mexican twice.

The moment I raised concerns about disconcerting behavior by a TMP male contractor, which was followed by inappropriate text messages to my daughter, retaliation started.

The very night I reported my concerns, the head of school canceled the school-wide event my daughter, I, and others had worked weeks to organize. It was scheduled for the next day.

Shortly after, my daughter was denied the chance to take the PSAT. We were told by e-mail that she was no longer a sophomore.

Next, the head of school singled out my daughter, interrogating her to tears about her minor involvement in a widespread cheating incident.

Her adviser, Anita Nugent, witnessed this abusive interrogation.

In December, I voted against an excessive lump-sum salary bonus for the head of school. My daughter was disenrolled from TMP the next day.

The stress from that landed her in the ER, which she was reluctantly released the next day with 1 I'm trans, nonbinary, and a queer person.

2 So despite what you might have read in the Santa Fe reporter, Karla Haas Moskowitz has always encouraged 4 me to use the bathroom of my choice. So I've never 5 had a problem there.

> The second thing is I was hired last year in September as a substitute teacher. And in February, I had have that surgery. I didn't have any PTO. My colleagues came together and donated their PTO. If they had not done that, I would not have been able to pay my rent. I would not have been able to buy food right after having a double mastectomy.

I want to say thank you so much for welcoming me into your community so quickly.

Thank you.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Next we have Kristin Carlisle.

And you don't need to hold the microphone too close, any of you; okay? So take care. FROM THE FLOOR: Hi. I'm Kristen

22 Carlisle. So C-a-r-l-i-s-l-e, K-r-i-s-t-e-n. 23 I have 15 years of teaching experience,

including recently The MASTERS Program. Before TMP,

I never had to contact a school board or State

authorities about violations at any school I worked at. But TMP stands alone in its severe violations. I'm sorry.

The PED and PEC have the duty to uphold students' rights. If they fail, they neglect their most basic responsibility. Approving a full recharter without conditions would endanger children.

Let me explain why. The current head of school has abused vulnerable students, including sexually explicit mockery of my Latino student, saying she could disenroll a student due to a learning disability and brutally retaliating by disenrolling a student, reenrolling her, and openly accusing her of faking her heart condition.

Students' right to learning time have also been abused. I estimate a deficit of roughly 200 instructional hours last school year, about two months of education, stolen from students.

I also have evidence of roughly \$250,000 wasted on teachers' stipends, much of it funding nonexistent or undocumented activities.

Retaliation at TMP is targeted at those who expose its failures. As just one example, when Dr. (audio distortion) and I filed complaints about

dysfunction.

During the 2023-2024 academic year, Karla Haas Moskowitz, Christopher De Jesus, and Norma Moreno at The MASTERS Program consistently discredited and invalidated my son's medical diagnoses. They withheld his initial 504 accommodations and his IEP from his instructors, withheld instructional materials and a textbook, and withdrew the homebound instruction they created for him and built into his IEP.

I am in the process of filing a formal complaint with the New Mexico Public Education Department, as I did not have the capacity or bandwidth to do this last year due to my son's illness and the abuse and gaslighting of the school.

It has come to my attention that much of the abuse that was perpetrated and the violation of my son's IEP and his rights under federal IDEA law may be a direct result of the lack of oversight of charter schools.

I therefore request that the committee delay their decision regarding the renewal of TMP's charter until more information has been gathered and proper oversight established.

In addition, it is my hope that these

special education violations, our PowerSchool accounts were immediately shut down.

I do not believe the abuse is over. The PEC flagged TMP, as Part B re-charter application, for failing to meet staff credentialing standards. And if this school claims that all hires this year were licensed and free from violence in their histories, I have documents proving that's not true.

I'm nearly done. This is my last few sentences.

Approving a long-term charter renewal without oversight would show blatant indifference to accountability. Please support the school's truly incredible children by approving a short-term renewal with conditions and close oversight. You owe it to them. Thank you.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Next we have Keren James.

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. My name is Keren James. First name is K-e-r-e-n. Last name, J-a-m-e-s.

My 16-year-old son is twice gifted as neurodivergent, a neurodivergent gifted student. In addition, my son has a physician-diagnosed autoimmune illness, anxiety, and autonomic three individuals will be removed from their positions at TMP and that they never again be allowed to serve in roles related to children or students.

Thank you.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Next we have Roxanne -- and I'm not going to try.

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning. It's an honor to speak with you all. I am not here to speak one way or another -- oh -- Seagraves. Roxanne Seagraves. S-e-a-g, as in "gravy," -r-a-v, as in "Victor," -e-s. Seagraves.

I am the Director of Bilingual Education here at The MASTERS Program. When I arrived at the school, I noticed that we had a large number of Hispano (incomprehensible) students, but we did not have the opportunity for them to earn the Bilingual Seal on their diplomas.

In addition, we have Native American students and Arab-speaking students who needed an opportunity to have their world languages and indigenous languages celebrated.

So picking up the ball and working with Karl- -- excuse me -- with Karla Haas Moskowitz and Ernest Kavanaugh, we put the program in place and

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last year graduated 14 students with the Bilingual Seal.

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We have an additional 17 students signed up for the seal who are seniors this year. There usually are five to twelve that come in later at the very last minute to take the test and prepare for it.

I have a list of another 25 students in lower grades who have signed up for the seal.

I also coordinate and organize programs for our students in international travel. I took 25 students from TMP to Panama last summer. We had a really amazing trip, and they learned a great deal.

Some there whom you saw in the video earlier went with us and is going to come with us on our next trip, which is to Costa Rica in the summer of 2026 as a chaperone.

It's an opportunity for students who have been raised in Santa Fe and, in many ways, sheltered -- because we're kind of like an island in the desert -- who they only have an opportunity to see the world, and especially the Hispano (incomprehensible) and Hispanic worlds, beyond the cultures that they know in Mexico and New Mexico.

difficult for a student to really get an education when the parents' perspective is also not -- is looked through -- is looking through their education through certain filters.

There is a saying: "Hurt people hurt people." And it's very difficult for us as educators to work with students when the parents aren't willing to work with us.

And, you know, I -- I got a chance to work with Keren's son. He's a wonderful student. He does have a lot of medical conditions. I don't recall ever making fun of his medical conditions or anyone at the school ever making fun of his medical conditions. What we did say was --

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Excuse -- I'm going to remind people that you're not to allowed to talk about specific kids or staff.

FROM THE FLOOR: So I just wanted to say we need to remember that education doesn't just fall on staff and administration. It really takes a whole group of people.

And as parents, we have to take our own responsibility as educators. We have to take our own responsibility -- the board plays a part. Administration plays a part. And to try and blame

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It's been a great pleasure to teach at The MASTERS Program. Again, my name is Dr. Roxanne Seagraves. Thank you.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Next we have Norma Moreno.

FROM THE FLOOR: Oh, hello. My name is Norma Moreno. My last name is M-o-r-e-n-o. I am a new teacher at TMP. I have -- I'm also an adjunct professor through SFCC. I have a doctorate in deaf psychology with an emphasis in somatics.

I'm going to speak -- I'm also a parent for two students that are at TMP. I have a senior and a junior at TMP.

So I want to speak to the fact that education and learning really takes a village. As a parent, I have the responsibility to educate my students, my only children, about what it is to be a student and what it takes to be successful in learning and to get an education. Especially having gone through a whole doctorate program, I greatly value education.

And I think it's something that we don't really consider much as parents what our roles are. And I think it's important that parents fight for their children's rights; but I also think it's very

just one entity, to me, is unfair.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Next we have Diana Boyd.

FROM THE FLOOR: Hi. My name is Diana Boyd. D-i-a-n-a B-o-y-d. I have a math Ph.D. I've been a math teacher for about 30 years, including five years at TMP.

In early 2024, I alerted leadership to concerns about special education practices, later deemed by the PED to be two violations of state and federal laws.

I was then pushed out of my teaching job, immediately placed on an indefinite administrative

Math proficiency scores at TMP have fallen from 31 percent to 17 percent, despite diversity at the school since I've been there, for five years.

It also appears at that time the special education director got a promotion, a raise, and the superintendent moved into his house.

The top-tier administrators at the school cost the school about \$400,000 annually with an additional \$337,000 spent on outside consultants.

> Is that an effective use of public funds? A 2023 Title IX claim against TMP resulted

in a determination of discrimination based on sex and sexual orientation, citing hostility and unprofessionalism in the workplace and placing blame on the governing council for lack of oversight.

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As recent as May 2024, despite -- as recent as May 2024, our leadership -- TMP leadership declared, in reference to my using a public restroom -- this is a quote -- "A lesbian teacher must use extra care in being diligent and professional and not putting herself at undue risk."

And I'll ask you. What risk is that?

The PED must question if TMP is safe and inclusive for LGBTQIA students and people? Is the volunteer unvetted TMP council with a recently resigned president up to the task of necessary oversight?

The school's across-the board decreasing proficiency scores, ongoing problems, violations of state and federal law, suggest the answer is no.

I urge you to put restrictions on the recharter, possibly requiring leadership restrictions, possibly placing TMP under the guidance of the Santa Fe Public School system administration.

Bottom line. Students continue to seek

my sister went there, and she has said amazing things about it. And I personally wanted to experience how it would be for me.

And it personally has made me more confident in doing this, speaking to people, and (audio distortion) helped me a lot as well into opening my opportunities and trying to find myself and to see what I want to do as a person.

And I think all the teachers are really trying to have a personal connection with me, which is great, and really open opportunities to people and others.

And I also want to say how amazing it has been for me, because it truly has made me more confident and changed my whole perspective in seeing the world as well to know how to step up in life, how it can be.

And I want to thank the teachers and everybody for the opportunities. And thank you for your time.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Next we have Vanna Gallegos. You already spoke?

How about Jocelyn Newhall?

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: My name is Jocelyn 25

Newhall. J-o-c-e-l-y-n N-e-w-h-a-l-l. I am

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support with school concerns.

THE CHAIR: You have to wrap it up. I apologize.

FROM THE FLOOR: Okay. Last sentence. A school where remaining staff might feel afraid to advocate for students is an unsafe environment.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: I'm speaking directly to the attendees on Zoom right now.

If you continue to raise your hand and you were not signed up for public comment, you will be exited out of the Webinar.

Next we have, in the room, Micaelah.

Okay. Well, they can't keep raising their hand.

Micaelah? Are you a student ambassador? Did you already speak? I can't read your last name.

No. There you are.

FROM THE FLOOR: Good morning, everybody. My name is Micaelah Balladares, B-a-l-l-a-d-a-r-e-s. I am a freshman at TMP. And I want to apologize for the situation that I have been hearing. But I also want to advocate for myself and everyone else how amazing I think this school is to everybody.

And I personally did not want to go to

TMP. But I really -- my parents pushed me because

currently a freshman at The MASTERS Program. And I

2 have really enjoyed it so far. I had heard about 3

The MASTERS Program from a friend of mine who was currently a junior at the school. And I was

accepted a week before school started, so I went

into orientation a little thrown off.

But everyone was very helpful, and all of the teachers have been really nice and accepting in helping me when I needed help, especially Ernest. He is very helpful. And I am in his Leadership 2 class and Student Council, and he has helped me find my voice and be able to come up here and speak today. I really enjoy TMP, and I wish it to continue. Thank you.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Okay. And then, finally, in the room, Cesar. You already spoke. Okay. That's what I thought.

And now we'll move to the folks online, starting with Aaron. Please spell your last name and then I will start the timer for two minutes.

FROM THE PUBLIC: Hello. Can you guys hear me?

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Yes, we can.

FROM THE PUBLIC: I'm so appreciative with my teachers, like they help me --

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1 MS. MELISSA BROWN: Aaron, can you please 2 tell us your last name and spell it? 3 FROM THE FLOOR: Yeah. F-l-o-r-e-s. 4 Flores. 5 MS. MELISSA BROWN: Thank you. Okay. Go 6 ahead. 7 FROM THE PUBLIC: So I would first like to 8 start with all my teachers, including Ernest. Even 9 though I'm not in Freedom Ambassadors, I would say 10 he's still a helpful teacher that you could go to 11 whenever you feel depressed or something, you feel 12 something is not going right. 13 And I would like to appreciate Sabrina, 14 because she's been helping me in math a lot. And 15 I've been learning a lot of math that I couldn't 16 figure out the first day -- the first days. 17 And I would like just to appreciate all my 18 teachers, 'cause they -- they see me work hard in 19 all my classes. They want the best for me. And I 20 hope to graduate in four more years. 21 MS. MELISSA BROWN: Thank you very much. 22 Next, online, we have Amaya Jaramillo. 23 Amaya, are you available? I will check 24 back with Amaya to see if she is available. 25 Amaya, when you come back to the computer,

Given these issues, my niece questions the school's commitment to fostering a fair and respectful learning atmosphere.

I am also concerned that the school is more concerned about the electronics part than the safety part.

As a school is an open campus, any random individual could walk in and do something to the school. I think this is incredibly dangerous.

10 Thank you for your time, and I look forward to seeing the outcome of this.

> MS. MELISSA BROWN: Thank you. Next we have Natalia Dominguez.

Natalia, I see you've unmuted, but we cannot hear you. Okay, Natalia. I'll come back to you. If you can try to work on your microphone.

We will go to -- I no longer see Kimberly Owen.

We will go to Jennifer -- Jennifer, I'm not going to try to pronounce your last name, either.

FROM THE PUBLIC: It's Reuschlein. MS. MELISSA BROWN: Yes, we can hear you. FROM THE PUBLIC: And I had a kid there --MS. MELISSA BROWN: Would you please spell

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if you could please just raise your digital hand. We will go to Judy Lopez. You can unmute. Please spell your last name.

FROM THE PUBLIC: Good morning. Can you guys hear me?

THE WITNESS: Yes, we can.

FROM THE PUBIC: Hi. My name is Judy Lopez, L-o-p-e-z. I just wanted to talk about my niece that has frequently expressed concerns about the teachers at TMP.

She has noted that there are several troubling behaviors, and she feels many teachers display a lack of disrespect towards students and only show concern when it benefits them personally.

She has observed that some teachers do not treat students equally, only addressing issues when it directly impacts them and seem predisposed to discipline students who have been in trouble before.

She -- she has observed -- oh, I'm sorry. She believes these practices create a bias and unsupportive environment.

Additionally, the school has had legal issues in the past, including a recent lawsuit in a recently dismissed and highly disrespected teacher without clear justification.

Reuschlein?

FROM THE PUBLIC: I figured you had it online. R-e-u-s-c-h-l-e-i-n.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: Thank you. It's for the court reporter. She's not in the room. So go ahead.

FROM THE PUBLIC: Yeah. I had a child graduate a year early two years ago. He was happy with the program. I was happy with the program.

I have a child in there now who has experienced the Panama trip, which was fantastic. I'm glad there was opportunity for that, does get support from DJ and the IEP, special education department. I also have -- have had no grievances and have been supported very well for that.

I appreciate the flexibility in the schedules and the assistance that I have received from the teachers. It seems like every time I need to reach out, they're very responsive via e-mail and to any concerns I have.

So I'm hoping that they will continue the charter and that we'll continue to be able to provide this to -- as an alternative to schools that we have in the Santa Fe community. I do think that that needs to continue. I appreciate it.

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138 1 Thank you. 2 MS. MELISSA BROWN: Thank you. I'm going 3 back to Amaya Jaramillo. Are you with us? 4 (No response.) 5 MS. MELISSA BROWN: All right. I will try 6 Natalie -- Natalia. Excuse me. Natalia Dominguez, 7 again. Again, I see you've unmuted. We still do 8 not hear you. 9 I'm very sorry, Natalia. We cannot hear 10 anything from your end. 11 What would the Chair like me to do about 12 our two people? 13 THE CHAIR: If they're not there, we're 14 going to have to move on. 15 MS. MELISSA BROWN: That concludes Public 16 Comment. 17 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. We're going 18 to take a ten-minute break. 19

(Recess taken, 12:06 p.m. to 12:21 p.m.) THE CHAIR: Commissioner Carrillo.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Just, initially, for the public -- and probably all of you here know

23 this. But for the public especially, I remind 24

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people that MASTERS is an acronym and what it is an 25 acronym for.

and see what it looked like on campus. Really cool.

I'm actually a huge fan of early college high schools. I have -- one of my children is in an early college high school in Albuquerque. And I think the opportunities -- that was highlighted over and over again by all these students. When your electives options are an entire college catalog, I mean, I don't know what more choice you could possibly ask for as a student.

And, especially, I love the students who don't know what they're going into. They don't know, you know, who they are, what they want to do when they're 30 years old, because, once again, you have the entire community college catalog to figure it out before you get into trying to get into your bachelor's degree. So what a great opportunity.

And, yeah, just huge support of early college high schools, especially done well and providing opportunities to students to get that associate's degree, to get a certificate and be ready for the next level of college or a career, right away, you know, a degreed career right out of high school. Incredible.

I do want to say I've had roles, actually in the PED before, in which we worked with lots of

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Obviously, The MASTERS Program. Math, arts, science, technology, English, reading, and service. 'Cause we never think of the scope of that. So I just wanted to remind everyone about

THE CHAIR: Okay. So as we continue to try to keep things at a -- we have a work session after this as well. And I want to make sure that everyone is heard.

I'm going to ask folks to keep the applause down, because it's just taking up time. I appreciate your support and your efforts, but we can't clap at everything.

So thank you. And I'm also going to ask the audience to please be very mindful. This is a public meeting. And from the audience, it's not acceptable for people to be making comments during the meeting. So you will be asked to not -- please not do that.

Commissioner Burt.

that. Thank you. Here you go.

COMMISSIONER BURT: Thanks. Thank you for being here today.

It's actually been a while. I have come to The MASTERS Program before, not in this role. I came last -- in 2017 to visit The MASTERS Program families, folks, about processes in education. And I will say I do want to let folks know that it is not -- you're not in the wrong forum. You never have to apologize for bringing any kind of concerns, issues, to address the Commission, ever.

But there are -- there are established processes in place that I would really encourage those processes to be followed and followed all the way through so that we can do things to act on them.

So the Commission's role is not to be a part of those investigations. It's not to be a part of that level of engagement, when there's issues that come up at a school.

But there are established processes that are available to any family, any student, any teacher. There are processes that you -- that can be followed when things are not happening at a school in the way that they should.

So I don't want anybody to feel unheard because I'm not -- I am not going to base my decision today around the complaints. But we do have processes. Once those complaints are looked at, once they're gone through with the right process, that's when we, as the Commission, can take a look at those results of the -- of those

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investigations and be able to take action at that point.

But right now, we're at a space where we do have an incredible application, really good data to support a school continuing serving students.

But that doesn't ever eliminate the option for us to take action at any time in the future, once we have some -- some results from PED departments, from other agencies, that do those investigations.

So I know it's -- I always think it's hard when you come and you have a frustration, a complaint, and to feel like, "Why did we even do this? I'm going to feel unheard in this moment."

But it's just because we're not -- we're not necessarily the right avenue for those issues at this time.

So definitely heard and will be looking at how those results of those complaints come about. But today, I do want to take a look at the application, look at the results, talk about what's going on at the school that I have in black and white.

And one of the things that I will say that I did see is a -- a commitment to improvement in

Like, that's an unrealistic expectation for everything to always be a perfect green; right?

So I love seeing when a school has a yellow, and the next year, they don't. They have a red; the next year is a yellow; the next year is a green. That's what the expectation is.

And that's what I feel like I did see in the data, was any kind of dip on anything was looked at and some actions were taken, because the next year it doesn't seem to be the same issue recurring over and over and over again.

So I am grateful for that school. And I know that's something that impacts students directly. Because when those pieces don't -- you know, when stagnation kind of happens -- I think that could happen even in a high performing school, where it looks like data -- date-wise, it looks like the students are performing. But if the administration is stagnant, the procedures are stagnant, everything is stagnant underneath, it's still not providing the quality of education that could be there; right?

Maybe it was good there before, but it could have been better. And I like that there's -- it looks like it's on an upward trajectory at this

this school. And that's one thing that I do appreciate.

Sometimes when I see schools who will have a lot of audit findings, they'll just keep going; right? You just keep doing the same thing, keep working with the same folks over and over again. And results don't really change.

So I do actually admire when something goes wrong and a board is, like, "Nope, we're not doing that."

And so I am grateful -- it was a very alarming -- right? -- to see the previous -- the previous year with so many greens and just a yellow, and then the next year have all those financial issues at the school is concerning.

So the fact that the governing board saw it and was like, "Whoa, we're not doing this, let's get someone else in, let's do this differently," to have that commitment of moving forward with greater transparency, making sure the processes are being followed, that's what I would ask for from a school.

It's never going to be -- I never expect a school to be just all greens. The fact that a year before that it is all greens, it is commendable.

But I expect things to not be perfect in a school.

school. And I appreciate that.

I actually don't have a ton of negative things to say. Because I've really looked through, and I was trying to find, you know, what are these pieces that really need to be looked at in this next term.

But I feel like -- unless with the new business manager, if the financial issues continue, I'd be concerned. But it being one year of your contract and to see that you made that change so quickly to improve that, it doesn't leave me with any concerns to renew the school for five years with no conditions.

So thank you for being committed to adult improvements and making sure that those -- the access to students isn't going to go away, because I think students deserve to have access to college classes in high school.

The first -- those first two years -- like, for kids who go through as AP students in a traditional high school -- right? -- those first two years of college are usually a repeat of what you just did your junior/senior year.

So to allow these students to have access and get over that and have rigorous coursework and

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actually have that be something that they carry with them on a transcript literally for their whole lives -- right? -- oftentimes we talk about high school. And once you get that transcript, it never goes anywhere after college; right?

Early college high schools are the one case where your high school transcript, it does follow you for your whole life. And that's an incredible -- what a value savings, what a learning opportunity for students.

And I love that they're all encouraged to continue moving after they get out of school. So just wanted to say thank you to you all.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: So, yeah. Thank you all for being here. What a great group. And it's -- it's always encouraging to see so many people come in support of a renewal or a new school approval.

I did have a question, maybe just some clarification, on the mission-specific goals.

You know, you talked about that a little bit. It -- as is, it sets you up for failure almost every time. I know that you're processing how that's going to change.

What -- and, by the way, I love the way

forward with what I believe is true or best, I really want to understand, well, what happened? Why -- what -- what contributed to that?

Ultimately, it looked like there were some -- there were some pieces in place at the college to support it, a first-year seminar course with credit that we could put all the freshmen in. And then there was the thinking, well, we'll just put all the freshmen in there.

That course didn't continue, and it didn't work. Those are the kinds of vulnerabilities that happen when that is the thinking. And I think it was well-intentioned, definitely.

Where I come from, as an educator for almost 50 years, and in watching students grow and develop, and have two children myself, very different learners, what was college, and then thinking about my own college experience, I kept coming back to what does it really mean to be prepared.

So anecdotally, and I also think statistically. And I did a little bit of work around New Mexico. We're also looking at retention in college. So that makes preparation and readiness even more important.

that you're addressing that. It sounds like a more appropriate way to really deal with -- I mean, our goal is not to have numbers of people. Our goal is to make sure that people are ready for -- for college, you know, and ready for life in general.

But what is your timeline for making those changes? And do you have some specific ideas about how that -- you know, what the specific goal is going to be, just so that you don't have those ugly Does Not Meet, Does Not Meet, you know, for those goals.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Well, thank you, Commissioner, for that question. This is a very exciting topic for me, because when I was hired and I learned about the mission-specific goals and understood that they were about quantity and not quality, I immediately thought, "Well, this doesn't make sense for me educationally."

I wanted to find out a little bit about the why's, like, what was the thinking behind doing that?

And I interviewed quite a few people and got the stories. And I think it was well-intentioned. And I -- I'm only spending a little bit on that, because I owe it -- before I go

The other thing that I want to mention is that if students felt good about taking a college class and then having to feel like they needed to drop it felt good to them, I'd say, "Go for it.

Let's just try, see what sticks."

But it doesn't feel good for them, either.

So what I wanted to do was find that kind of sweet spot of blending the college experience for all of our students, grade 9 through 12, so that it would be an encouraging experience, if that makes sense.

And that doesn't mean it doesn't have challenge or that it doesn't provide opportunities for them to take risks and feel like they need to buck up or understand that maybe their assumptions about themselves and what they know have to be challenged. All of that is part of it.

But, like John Holt says, "You don't teach a person to ski by breaking their legs." That is what I think about when I think about how do we really prepare people to do what we say we're going to do.

That was the question that, when I was hired, I asked. We say that this is what our mission says that we're going to do. We are an

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early college. So let's do it. Let's prepare students for career and college on their own terms, and also to invite them into spaces where they can understand they're navigating systems of power, which I think is sometimes overlooked when we support students to go to school, if that makes sense.

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So the specifics are this: I'm a bit of a constructivist, so I like co-constructing learning experiences with students. So, specifically, what I'd like to see us do -- and we've begun the process. We brought in Canvas, so all of our teachers -- there are a couple still on Google Classroom, but by the end of the year that may shift.

We're all up on Canvas, that synchs with PowerSchool. And Santa Fe Community College uses Canvas. So right away, feel comfortable with this platform. Synchronous learning, we've integrated that.

So practicing in supervised settings for them to find success.

So those are some -- we've been doing -the work is -- has started.

So as soon as I saw the mission goals, and

out of opportunities to take college classes, and then they go, "Oh, now I know what I want to do."

We put our student assistance fund -- it's a very generous fund -- we buy welding kits that are not supported through state funding, other types of career-oriented materials that students need. They know they want to be welders, and they have these welding kits. Some are very logistic like that.

As far as the academic and curricular piece, with Canvas, there is an e-portfolio option that I'm a big fan. That's where students can show evidence of learning.

As a teacher, I use it in my classes. That's how I assess my learning is through the e-portfolio. Other teachers use other types of assessments.

I would like to see us have a ninth grade portfolio that goes all the way through twelfth grade. I would like to see the evidence that they put in there are the criteria we set. They're clearly outlined in our mission statement, and I think those are qualifications that would be really great for students to show evidence for.

How am I compassionate? How am I engaged? How do I do service?

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I said, "We're not" -- "We're going to shift it not because of that, but because what is best practice for an early college? What is best practice for a high school?"

And so I would say almost everything that was suggested and implemented in the past year and a half was to that end, to be the best high school we could be, the best early college that we could be.

And they go hand in hand. And so creating that learning environment with technological support, I think the staff has almost doubled. We needed to do that. We needed to bring in more people in different roles. College and career adviser, for example, to support our registrar. For me, that was kind of a no-brainer.

Working even more closely with Davis and looking at other scholarships and FAFSA nights, and all the things that help support students logistically for understanding how to even get into college. The Pathways program has received tremendous support. We do have a CTE grant.

But we also have our own funds that we're putting into what are these pathways? The courses that students are taking, how do they actually fit together, rather than be too random that they run

We have begun to identify, and our

leadership team has spent meeting time looking at the research-based qualities that -- some of them are obvious, like, that have to do with confidence, you know, self-reliance.

There's certainly knowledge base that students need. But a lot of it has to do with their internal workings, their -- their time management.

For me, in college -- and I was a really good high school student, and a very, very poor beginning college student, as I couldn't put -- I didn't know how to use adults as resources. I didn't know how to navigate systems.

And that, I think you heard from our students, just by being around the students, you can see that they're learning how to do that, because it's modeled for them as well.

So I can go on and on about it, because I'm very excited about it. But we're already doing it. And they're very concrete steps. The students are already beginning to engage, and it's about demonstrating and celebrating the proficiency to be able to do that, scaffolding, supporting.

And some of it just has to do with just being there with the students having advisory and

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having the advisers check in and say, "So how are you doing in that -- in that composition class," and seeing how we can support them.

Does that answer your question?

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah. That's -- and that's -- I mean, that's great. I -- I love that you put so much time into that. And the focus, as you said, is -- is -- is not the quantitative parts of it, you know, at all.

But the other thing is is that an amendment needs to happen -- right? -- in order to change that mission-specific goal, so you're not -- you're not still wallowing in that -- in that existing, you know, goal.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: So we have been on board, I think, as a school with the new vision since -- since the beginning of my tenure there.

And, again, it doesn't mean that we don't use data. We still want to know how many of our students have been successful, what kind of courses are they taking.

So I'm working now on creating a couple of databases that are really important to me.

One of them is so I going can start doing some more longitudinal studies about our students.

anything about it because we're not the mechanism to do that.

We get reports from agencies when there's a finding, and then we can act on the finding. But we have no ability to act on accusations. It doesn't mean we don't hear them and aren't affected by them.

And the angst that we have is that individuals aren't going through the channels that they need to so that we can get -- if there are findings that we can get them. And it may seem like a simple request for us to delay this until we get more information. But we're statutorily limited. We have to make a decision by January 1 for this.

So we -- we have a cycle of renewal that statute limits us with, so that this is the time period for this renewal hearing, so that we can make the appropriate decision.

So we have no authority to delay for months until we get additional information.

So that I just -- and I know it's been communicated to people. But I just want to reinforce that, that it's -- it wasn't that it was heard. We can't -- we can't do that.

So I'm going to say kudos for a lot of the

Where are they? How did TMP prepare? What kind of courses did they take?

That's something we're working on this next semester. It's really important for us to find our alum and track. But the longitudinal studies using our alum are really important to inform what it is that we're doing as well.

So there's a lot of data to -- to collect to go forth. But I think philosophically what we're looking for is how do you demonstrate readiness? And -- for career and college. So thank you.

THE CHAIR: So thanks once again. And everyone who came, took the time out to speak, especially students, who, it's a little bit of a heavier lift to come and speak before any public body.

So I really do appreciate it. One of the great things about this is we get to hear all these stories. And this has been, for the most part, three really good days, because we've heard from students, we've had presentations, and it's been a celebration of the school.

One of the frustrating parts about what we do is when we do have individuals come and express concerns to us and it isn't our -- we can't do

great work. But I am going to ask -- so one of the dips -- I think it was last year -- in the performance framework -- and there were a few more greens -- a few more yellow and maybe a red, I'm not sure. But then there was also -- there was a big changeover on the board.

Did that happen at the same time?
DR. KELLY TRUJILLO: No. Actually, it happened over time. I've been with the board for a year and a half. At the time I joined the board, there was -- there was some transition. We had an

outgoing board president, and a new president was appointed. We had some people come and go, just for whatever reason. They -- you know, it's -- it's a true commitment of time and effort.

We're in the position right now where we have added some tremendous valued members to the board that bring with them knowledge that we need.

We have a lawyer on our board, for example. We have a person with financial expertise.

I happen to be associate dean at Santa Fe Community College, so I have the connections to the college, and I'm there on a daily basis to see how TMP functions and how it interacts with the college.

So, yes, there's been some transition. I

don't think it's been terribly unusual. We've made changes to ensure that we are within compliance with regards to our training and any sort of other compliance issues that we have.

Our secretary of the board, Dorianis Perez, keeps us on track, also keeps us on track with our monthly meetings and recordings and being completely transparent with the public.

THE CHAIR: Thanks. And maybe I'm reading the chart wrong, because it looked like there were maybe five new this last year? And I could just be --

MS. MELISSA BROWN: I can pull that up, if you would like.

THE CHAIR: -- misreading. Am I reading that wrong?

MR. KELLY TRUJILLO: There are currently two members of the board that have been there significant amounts of time.

THE CHAIR: Correct. There were those two. But then it looked there were five or six that just came on this year.

MR. KELLY TRUJILLO: Yes.

THE CHAIR: So, just in general, that's one of the indicators to us that there is a concern.

complaints filed. And I know we've got the Office
 of Special Ed, the OSE complaint that's been
 identified.

Were there any other complaints, like Title IX? Because the application did ask, and there was no response to that.

So have there been other complaints filed beyond the OSE complaint that we have identified?

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Well, the ones that I know of, I felt I did report. There was a Title IX, and that was closed.

THE CHAIR: I don't see that in the application.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Okay.

THE CHAIR: When I looked at the application, I didn't see a response to it. And I asked the Director if she had a -- because you're supposed to upload a copy of it.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: I would be happy -- I would be more than happy to upload a copy of it.

It's been investigated and closed. So I still -- I didn't know that was --

THE CHAIR: The application specifically says that. And it wasn't identified in the application.

when you have a large -- I mean, five out of seven or six out of eight.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: So they have three continuing members and three new members this year.

THE CHAIR: Okay. So that was me. Okay. So I'm less concerned. Thank you. Thank you.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Thank you.

THE CHAIR: I don't often read those charts wrong. So I appreciate the clarification, because I thought I was reading it wrong. Yeah.

MS. MELISSA BROWN: They might have had some members that joined and then left. That happens. Now that the State no longer requires board members to have any training before they're voted on, some people find that the commitment is not for them, and so there might be some people that joined and then left and then didn't get any (inaudible).

THE CHAIR: Thanks. I appreciate it. So I have less of a concern of that.

So thanks. And I do appreciate the fact that things are identified and the school works on it. So I do appreciate that.

But I am going to ask -- because the application does ask to report if there were any

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: And then that was an oversight on our team, so I apologize for that.

That went on most of the last semester. It was fully investigated, and it was closed.

THE CHAIR: Thank you. And I don't want

THE CHAIR: Thank you. And I don't want to get into the what, okay? So I just needed some clarification on that; otherwise, I don't have any concerns at this point in time.

Oh. Commissioner Brauer. I'm sorry.

COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you very much. Thank you to all the students. Just, again, it's great to be broken records up here to just say how great it is to have young people here and to show their leadership, to show clarity and confidence about who they are, the self-awareness that it takes to be in front of a bunch of strangers up here on the dais.

Congratulations to you all. Thank you for sharing more about the TMP story. I've only been there a couple of times prior to being a Commissioner. And I know you all are doing some really great work.

I have just a few questions and then just one comment.

I -- first off, congratulations on the

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operational cash balance that you all have. Like, you have over \$2 million in your cash. And that -that is equivalent to 155 days of cash on hand. So I think that's wonderful.

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My follow-up question to that is, what are you going to do with all that? If you don't mind -if you have plans, you don't have to tell me exactly.

I was just curious what your thoughts are. Probably FTEs, it sounded like? I'm putting two and two together. But I was just curious if you had larger scale plans.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Commissioner, thank you for that question. I also love talking about finances.

So coming to The MASTERS Program from charters from out of state, I was surprised to learn that it was common to have business managers, companies that managed the budget, because I've always managed the budgets wherever I've been.

So, with all due respect, one of the reasons I recommended to the board that we make the change is I wanted a smaller, more partnership-oriented -- because I had lots and lots of questions to figure out what -- so, again, what's

of there was an attempt at kind of a massive reorganization that was -- that cost money, you know, to bring people in, professional development, and offering the resources that those teachers wanted.

And not just teachers. Because our staff, they're all teachers. I mean, we're all educators. And so making sure that they had what they needed in terms of space, you know, in terms of just office materials, textbooks, if they wanted that, professional development, and just materials for the classroom.

Because another thing that shifted was needing to get more classroom space. And so we -we said, "We'll lease it. We just need more space."

And the College has been great in giving -- I have six new classrooms since they've come on.

So just getting a classroom, you want to make it warm and inviting. So part of it was the school previously -- I think because it interpreted early college as -- like, everybody was a college adjunct.

But for me, we're a high school first. So we assigned rooms to people so they could create

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the history here of where did the money come from? How can I spend it? What's the unique funding sources in New Mexico?

So, fundamentally, school budgeting is the same, but there are some unique aspects to it. So there was a lot of learning about it. And I realized that not only did we have a strong, as you said, balance, but we also had to spend it. You know, we had to spend it.

So I spent it as strategically as possible. And my priority was to look at the mission and make sure that our budget reflected our priorities; our budget reflected what we said was important.

And so, for me, number one -- or one of the number ones -- there are more than one -- is people. And I think that the -- the young people our students, will tell you that what makes TMP is the staff.

And so we clearly needed more. And more isn't always better, because you can enlarge an organization and make things so complicated and chaotic that it isn't always good.

But we did need more people. And we also needed job descriptions and put people -- in terms those spaces, which they did.

And so when they want more storage or more art materials to integrate into English class, or we're developing a maker space, hired an amazing new STEM teacher who's turning a room into a science room, which involves all kinds of things like electrical outlets being -- certainly -- so there's all those things.

There's new tables and chairs where we want to redevelop the atrium, the center of our school, where the students congregate. Because some of the -- you know the places where the students sit are not up to par, and we want them to be comfortable and helping to weigh in on what those look like.

So it's people; it's materials for the classroom. And, yeah, it's stipends. And so -- and the stipend continues. So at the beginning, staff -- we had half the staff -- we had a large turnover of staff. It wasn't just -- we had a significant -- when I came on, we hired new people to replace people who had left, and then additional people.

So just figuring out how do we bring these people together so that they're talking to each

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other and they're not necessarily staying in their classroom, how can we get them to really want to be together again.

And so part of it was forming PLCs and committees to make a lot of decisions about calendar, about activities, about curriculum, about all kinds of things.

And they did it. They -- and I trust them. And they talked together, and they worked on who they wanted to be as a school.

And I can't tell you how joyous it is to be at that school these days a year and a half later, to sit in the main office and see people having lunch together, talking together, meeting together, planning together, laughing.

And that -- it was incentivized by extra time during lunch periods, after lunch, during breaks. And so it's investment. I'm trying to invest in what we say we're doing.

And extra planning time.

So, I mean -- and that's -- so, strategically, we do have capital monies that we are putting in a -- I mean, a student asked for a gender neutral bathroom. When I first -- in our wing. And I put in -- and it takes a while to build things at

the information that I need to know. And so I feel like I can be a part of that and support.

And we have a great business office with Margaret. We hired human resources. I can go on and on. We've added a lot of folks to support our operations, as well as our instruction.

COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Awesome. One -thank you for that thorough response.

I have a quick question. Do you all have paid internships with your students? What's that look like?

Because that's where I think -- in my mind, I think all that stuff you said was like, great. When I think there's additional funding, how is that supporting students directly in terms of opportunities? I know as an early childhood -- or sorry -- early college school, a lot of this is wrapped in getting their college courses taken care of. But I was curious if you all had paid internships or work-based learning that happens also at the school.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: We do. That's also being expanded, because, you know, when -- a good part of my teaching career, I was a SWAP teacher. schoolwork Action Program. The idea of vocational

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And so -- or even in your own home, if you've ever put in a bathroom, and it's twice as long or three times as long. And it's going in.

And we hope -- we're spending money on upgrades, like digitizing a lot of the files so we can access them better. Security systems so people can't -- making sure our security systems are technological.

There are all kinds of, and they're all strategic. We'll spend it. I guess -- I don't want to use -- I needed to work with a more transparent system. Not that there was anything hidden, but I want to know each line item.

So we now have department chairs that meet. We have a curriculum committee, and they're all doing budgets, so the year before, we go into the year, what is your budget? What do you need ahead of time? Can you go and print a reader instead of make photocopies?

So we're talking about all kinds of ways of spending money and saving money. So that I am now -- really, now, finally, I can see each line.

I can call Katie and Kim and others at Axiom and say -- day or night, they're showing me education being education is in my DNA as an educator.

So in working with the staff, we have an interdisciplinary team, and DJ can speak to that, and creating an entire program, identifying it as options, which is curricular as well as experiential.

We have IDEA-B funds. We had this fledgling work study program last year that's been significantly expanded.

We now have a handbook and a policy manual for work study students, because I do payroll for the school. I process the time sheets. And they get paid. And they learn how to be workers.

And I agree. I think it's the best -it's the best possible way of learning is to be in

And we hope to -- and DJ and I have been meeting. We're going to keep expanding it. Let's do conferences, get more kids involved, and be a model program for student engagement in the community.

We have the Friday projects, which are service learning. And they are companion projects to our students who are working in the kitchen, who

are working in the greenhouse. And we've got one doing a special research project in technology.

So, yes, an enthusiastic yes.

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MR. CHRISTOPHER DE JESUS: I'd just like to touch on that. We did start doing paid internships. Actually, one individual I have had experience with at a previous school that was actually in the center program for the majority of his elementary school. He had autism and was in that program and was never challenged.

And when he came to TMP, we saw his potential. And, currently, he's in the second year of working in the cafeteria, which his supervisor says he's a natural. He's come out of himself.

When he was -- sometimes he'd have kind of outburst.s and he hasn't had outbursts in over a year because of the socialization that we're able to provide him, as well as he's in his first year of working towards a culinary certificate, which this student was in a center program for seven years, never challenged. And hen he got to TMP, we had the resources and the mindfulness of providing these services to this student.

Another student that is (incomprehensible), we gave her the opportunity to

With math, there -- it was -- I know it was 30 percent last year, '22-'23. This year, it's 17. So that's, like, an alarm raising kind of dip, you know.

You basically have the amount of students who are proficient right now in math.

And then science has had a subtle decline as well over the last three years of data that we do have

What I just wanted to hear is how is that -- what are the areas of concern for you all? How are you thinking about the information that we have?

Granted, I know stuff this last year -- I know you've it had longer than we have. It was just released this week, but I know you all have had that information beforehand.

I'm just wanting to hear a little bit -it's not going to affect my support of the school.
But I do think that there is a -- this is a -something to pay attention to, and there is a trend
there across the three subject areas.

I just wanted to hear your response to that.

MS. CHERYL ROMERO: Commissioner Brauer.

be in a jewelry program auditing classes. And this young lady is in her third class. And the other day she came up and said, "Hey, DJ, look at what I made." A beautiful ring that in any other school we would -- they would have put her -- these students in a center program where -- remediated their -- totally remediated what they're doing.

But with Karla's vision and the support from the staff, we're able to provide these students with these amazing opportunities, and we're very much excited to expand this.

COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Great. Thank you so much.

I have one other area that I had some questions around. I'm sorry. I'm looking -- I think I have this memorized without looking at it on my computer.

But I know that for -- for your proficiency scores in reading, math, and science, each have gone down a little bit. Reading has gone down a little bit from -- last year, you had, like, it was around 55 percent proficiency, and '21-'22, you really spiked, like, 65 or 66 percent, maybe it's a little bit higher than that. And you dipped down back to, like, 56 this year.

thank you for -- board, thank you. There is an illusion, when you look at the two different sets of scores, from '22-'23 school year to '23-'24.

And the illusion is that these are the same students, to see if they have grown or if they have mastered additional skills.

And the reason being is when you look at the SAT, and you're just using those particular scores, when you get the results, those are eleventh graders for that particular year. And then when you take the next school year, you're looking at a different set of students.

And so you cannot determine whether or not those students have grown or have lost any skills, because it's a completely different set.

COMMISSIONER BRAUER: I'm so sorry. I'm going to interject that I totally get that. I understand. I understand they're not the same students. I know it only happens in eleventh grade.

But it also is a trend that the eleventh graders last year, in reading, were at a much higher level than the eleventh graders this past year in reading. And I think that the trend results are, like, the eleventh graders in science and math have declined pretty dramatically.

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So I just want to make sure you knew -like, I get the illusion. But I'm not at that level. I understand that. But I just wanted to see, like, what are you doing with the -- and this is the thing about -- and my opinion, in high school it's hard to have just one assessment that this all goes into. And I get that.

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But you all are an early college pathway. And 17 percent proficiency doesn't sound -- doesn't sound like college preparation to me. It doesn't tell the whole story. I get it.

But I just -- that's where I'm going. Like, what's happening to make sure that that may have been a little bit more of an outlier, and then the next five years, we're going to pay attention to this? Even if something changes, and we have additional assessments, or if you decide on a different model with your partnership with us when we go to contracting, I'm just -- I just -- I'm worried when I see that that, like, the -- we're seeing a decline, where I think an early college school, we should see, like, stronger results when it comes to the math, science, and reading.

MS. CHERYL ROMERO: Okay. So for some more clarification, just to put those pieces out

readiness mean? What type of colleges are we looking at? Are we looking at a very traditional school that was maybe an Ivy League school that had a specific pathway for its college? Were we meeting those particular skills?

Are we looking at those students and saying, "These are the skills we want them to meet," or are we looking at it in a broader range? We have students who are going to attend college and aren't going to get a traditional four-year bachelor's degree or a five-year bachelor's degree, depending on what's going on.

So now we have implemented different pathways to help students try and find their way with their particular passion and their unique abilities.

And so looking at just a range of your reading level is only at 50 percent, does that mean that you're college or career ready? If we're really looking at college, what type of college are we looking at for each individual student at our school?

Is it a college that is going to prepare them post-secondary for a trade? And we are looking at sustainability, and they're looking at an

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there, we are aware of that particular part. And that's why we wanted to broaden the results. So when we look at those particular findings, we wanted to make sure we were looking at it through a whole bunch of different lenses, so we were not making it just based off of SAT scores.

And so then that's when we brought in NWEA MAPs, so we could then look at our students as they go year to year so we could determine how are these students approaching the next set of skills that have been presented in the curriculum that we are providing at TMP, and then what we are presenting for them to take when they go to Santa Fe Community College, or if whether they're taking classes that are sheltered dual credit, or if they're going to IAIA and going to that college, also.

We're drilling into those skill sets for those particular academic skills.

But at the same time, as you know, we had our first goal for our charter was to say how many students were actually -- or enrolled in college courses, and then whether or not we were meeting those as ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade. So we knew that was a very limited view.

When we look at it, we say what does the

engineering degree, and is that -- the trade that they're looking at, is it really going on the STEM?

So all of these particular pieces are coming back. So when we look at college readiness, we're looking at improving it all.

So our professional development is coming back to looking at this. We're looking at our programming. We're looking at our advisory. How are we getting information from families and students? And the service component also allows them to have these pieces, so we can then determine which college is appropriate, how do we fill it into the Next Step plan, what is appropriate for this student to get to the next spot.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Let me address some of the academic pieces of your question.

So there's a few logistical things we've done.

We have almost doubled our numbers of students identified as English Learners. And, again, that is not problematic for us. That is an asset. And it's more -- more people to be involved in our Bilingual Seal.

But in working with our new chair of that program, I asked if she would have a -- an

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individualized literacy goal.

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In other places where I've lived, in E, programs, you have ILPs, and then students who are identified with disabilities have IEPs or 504s.

Now, the more we can have Individualized Learning Plans for all of our students. And the Next Step Plans are for all of our students. The ILPs are for students identified as being English Learners. Our IEPs are identified with stu--- and then we have 504s.

That will help to -- overall, hiring three or four more special education teachers to increase the team with coaching and tutoring and what can be seen as intervention.

There's a lot of problemetizing terms used involved in this. You don't know me well. I don't want to fall into something that looks like we're remediating a person. And we're not. We're finding the areas where they can use the most support.

So the more data we get, which MAP gives us, which SAT and PSAT and the NM -- New Mexico Assessment for Science Readiness gives us is helpful, but not as helpful, because in MAP, you get the immediate. The student gets to be a partner in that. And you are tested four times a year.

measures to take care of that.

But I also opened up The MASTERS Program handbook on your website. And I think that in these moments, this is where it behooves all of us to utilize our core values and to be driven by our core values.

One of your big core values is respect, respect for self, respect for others, respect for community, respect for the environment.

And I just hope that, as we go through what I think your school is going through -- and, of course, there's due diligence and due process that's going to be happening -- that I hope that there -- that that value of respect in all ways is continued to be upheld, for everyone involved. And that's bidirectional. Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Commissioner Carrillo. Okay. You can go. Sure.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Okay. In terms of -- thank you for being here, and thank you for the entertainment, starting with, you know, the quintet that was there. It was just -- we love that. It just fills our hearts with joy when we see what our students are doing, and they share with us what they're doing.

I think you're asking is what are we going to do. We anticipated the drop, because, I mean, you can't sustain Spotlight status, I don't think, if you're just looking at a smaller group of students and one particular type of test that does not give you data to really affect instruction.

So I think that those are the biggest things. Our learning lab, our fifth block, homework help, our advisement, and MAP data, looking at something that can be seen as intervention or being proactive in supporting students in their skill development. Because I'm also concerned, and not just for TMP, but I'm concerned about skill level, particularly in math, nationally.

COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Yeah, for sure. That is a trend that we've seen. And we've seen 17 percent math proficiency already this week from other schools that are high performing and Spotlight Schools. So it takes all of us to prioritize that.

One last thing. This is a little bit of a commentary. I won't repeat, Chair and Commissioner Burt, about what we've heard today and a bit of the division that we're seeing and some of the -- just the different experiences that we've heard.

And I hope that everyone takes the proper

And it reminds us all the time -- not that this group needs reminding, because we're pretty clear on what we're doing here.

But it's just who we're serving; right? Because sometimes up here we get so involved in policy and minutiae and the law and -- but then the joy stuff. That's what I'm here for. Okay?

I don't know if Willow is still here. But when she spoke about being able to graduate with her associate's in biology -- you know, things like that, just -- one of the reasons I love the school.

And the gentleman whose name I didn't get who talked about -- as a result, I think of his interactions with ambassadors and with Ernest -- we'll get to you in a minute, Ernest -- wanting to go into law and politics.

I think not enough people with the right mindset want to get involved in public service. And, you know, running for office is so difficult. By serving the public, there's so much gratification in that, whether it's elective office or something -- another field.

And I was just -- just looking at my notes, people felt honored and respected by staff. They felt safe in the school. They felt that

everywhere they looked -- and Commissioner Burt spoke to this -- everywhere they looked, there was opportunities and that they were supported in exploring who they were in different opportunities and not being pigeonholed in one way or another.

And so very happy for that.

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Ms. Rue -- I don't know if she's still here -- spoke about the compassion and openness of staff. That just seemed to be -- I know there were people that had challenges with the school that spoke.

But I also just really see kind of a trend, if you will, of people being supported by staff at the school, and the people online as well.

Okay. So now all of that having been said, math is in the cellar. And I know that Chair Brauer -- I mean, what was -- maybe you want to go back into that role?

Commissioner Brauer touched on it. A lot of our schools are in the cellar. But just because so many of our schools are in the cellar, that doesn't mean we accept this mediocrity as the norm.

Oh, gee. Our kids in New Mexico can't seem to learn math except for a few skills.

What's your plan? They're knocking it out

You're a social studies and an English teacher. I'm a special ed teacher. I teach the subject. I teach young people, and I attempt at times to teach myself and model that.

So, for me, trying with some compassionate encouragement to staff in the community that we will become more interdisciplinary, more project-based, more invested in community education, so that we can fall in love with math everywhere.

And it's a hard sell for some, particularly those who have taught a certain way or believed in it in a certain way. And I find that fine. It encourages us and invites us into engaging conversations, and we will have those, and with students and with teachers and with staff, and we will continue to look at that.

I also want math to show up in multiple ways; in small groups, in individual coaching sessions, using more the tutoring center at the college. We have our own, you know, learning lab.

So I think it's more about helping students find their math self, their math voice. And that -- and I'm -- you know, one would call me an English teacher. And I could say the same about lots of things. But I think we all know -- maybe --

of the park in other ways. You're ahead of every school and other schools and the district in other ways. Math. What's your plan?

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: So I still believe, contrary to some philosophies, that to think mathematically is a beautiful thing. And so I'm starting with just promoting math as a beautiful thing, accessible to everyone.

And there's no -- and there's a lot involved in that.

So hiring passionate, creative teachers.

And we've had those.

And really trying to make it not only relevant -- because relevancy comes up, and people say, "Well, math isn't relevant." Of course, math is relevant. We think mathematically all the time.

However, there is a degree of abstraction to math as there is in many things, that it takes some people a while to get.

So what I want to do at TMP is really keep supporting math everywhere, math in every level, math in every subject. And we're getting there.

TMP has a long history of being a school that has disciplines. And I -- it's not some -- most high schools are.

I know -- I think -- sometimes math has been a subject for people where they have -- there's even a concept of being math-phobic.

You know -- and we don't -- you can be as afraid of whatever you want. But we don't say that as staff. Like, I never say, "I don't do math, I'm an English person." There isn't that. We all can do all of it. And we may do it in different ways. And we may all come to that at different rates.

And I think good schools -- and TMP is one and will continue to be a better one -- will offer opportunities at many, many junctures, in many different ways. Sometimes it'll feel frustrating to some. All of a sudden, the floodgates will open and they'll go "Ah-ha."

That's because we do want to keep mixing it up. We use some technology. Primarily, it's about bringing people in that are passionate, that model it, truly, that make it exciting, and are patient, really patient with a person's process to come into their mathematic self.

And just role modeling that kind of learning as teachers, educators, and staff members, that we are those kind of learners as well. I don't know if I answered -- I can go on and on.

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VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: It's funny. You could talk forever about the subject. It's, like, whenever somebody asks me about public schools in New Mexico, it's, like, "Do you have the rest of the day, because I just love to talk about schools and kids and..." -- so I love you used the phrase "finding their math self."

Because there was another school at the time, where there's a math-phobic thing that happens, where people are in the sixth, seventh grade, eighth. Maybe they did a pre-algebra and it didn't go well and thought, "I'm not good at math, I'm not going to pursue this."

To me, math is fun to me, 'cause math is exact. Math, you find an answer. I just enjoy that

It made me think of how we use the term "writing across the curriculum." You know, I remember once -- my son, for a very brief time, went to a private school. Well, he went to Desert Academy. I don't mind naming it.

And the -- his counselor -- his counselor said in his first meeting with us, you know, "Leo isn't bringing home writing homework at all."

I'm like, "What?" Just, I'm saying,

that are 17 and below. Come on. We can do better. And I know TMP can do better. I mean, I know it.

Your answer on quality versus quantity relative to college courses that Commissioner Taylor brought up, I loved your answer to that. There was someone I served with for a while in Santa Fe on the board. And she and I stressed more than anything proficiency. Don't talk to me about graduation rates. Talk to me about reading, writing, and doing math.

You can graduate with a D. That's like getting out of bed in the morning. No awards for that. You get awards for doing better than that. And so I really like that you are looking at that differently in terms of quality versus the quantity.

The -- I was going to save Ernest for last, but I'll do him now.

The times -- I've been at the school many times. I'm grateful to Tina for the times you reach out to me and I'm able to attend different events. I don't know if Barb is still here. Same thing.

I love being at your school -- I love -- the kids are -- you're on a college campus. It feels so good that way; right?

So for kids that are really -- they really

"Randy, what's the story here? Why is my son not bringing home any writing assignments?"

He said, "Well, we're not really focusing on that. We're not focusing on writing across the curriculum."

And I was like, "What?" Actually, I said "WTF."

And my wife was, like, "Steve."

I was, like, "No, you write across -you're constantly writing. Every subject should have a writing component."

And I like that you said, "I'd do math across the curriculum," working in a component of mathematics into everything so people are more comfortable.

And also teachers learning how -- through professional development, "How do you reach somebody who's math-phobic? How do you take off the armor for them and have them just be open to whatever is next relative to math?"

Relative to professional development, that might be something to look at, very specifically, how do you treat a kid that's math-phobic and turn that around for them?

17 is not good. We have so many schools

kind of know they want to go that direction, I think TMP is an amazing place to be. We heard that from a lot of the kids.

I was able to attend one of Ernest's -should I call you Mr. Kavanaugh -- is it okay if I call you "Ernest"? Do we know each other well enough? All right.

One of his classes on leadership, and also the graduation -- or the moving on kind of ceremony, if you will, for the Ambassadors.

And it was extremely moving. The confidence these young people had in speaking to their peers, and to also everyone that attended, what they were -- the ground that Ernest was covering in the leadership class.

That's -- that's something you have at your school that I don't see at other schools kind of in any way.

It's one thing to have it, like, Santa Fe High, yeah, you've got your pool of kids that are going to take kids on their tour if they're considering the school. That's way different than the leadership, the Ambassadors, and now this next level that you're doing.

I'm super impressed. You're one of those

people, I'm really sorry to say, that can never retire. It is what it is. We'll build wheelchair ramps for you if we have to. Whatever you need, okay?

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Now I'll turn to something that is kind of a big red flag. It's board turnover and administrator turnover.

It's amazing your school is able to do as well as it does, given that kind of turnover.

And so to you first, Mr. Trujillo -- and just tell me, just, honestly -- not that you would lie to me -- how many members on your board have been there for less than one year, one solid year?

DR. KELLY TRUJILLO: Oh, geez. We just recently have two that just joined.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Is it five? A year or less.

DR. KELLY TRUJILLO: A year or less -- is it six? Five? Five.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: If it's six, that's even worse. The thing is -- what I'm getting to is on boards -- and I was very happy to meet two of your board members that are coming on. What we see and what a focus of ours is -- only four that have been there one year or less?

turnover.

And in a lot of ways, maybe some of the challenges that were brought forward in public forum would not have existed if there was much more continuity on the board.

So a question, as well, Mr. Trujillo. Do you meet in Zoom or in person?

DR. KELLY TRUJILLO: Well, we do hybrid. But we do have people on the ground.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: So mostly in person. DR. KELLY TRUJILLO: Yes, that's correct.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Excellent. To anybody listening, you want to do Zoom and have your camera off and eat tacos night on Tuesday or whatever, get off the darn board. Commit.

And the other thing is -- I'm really serious about this. I think Zoom makes people rude, sarcastic. They act inways on Zoom they would never act if you were sitting next to me, ever.

The other thing that being in person does -- and I'm curious about this. How robust is your public comment as part of your agenda?

DR. KELLY TRUJILLO: Unfortunately, it hasn't been robust. We've had very few public comments during our board meetings.

(Off-mic discussion.)

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Okay. Then it's

You know what, honestly? Doesn't matter. Way too much turnover on the board. Way too much.

Where we see schools' success -- and in the last school that was here -- everything becomes a blur. Who was here this morning? Amy Biehl. Eight years, fifteen years, four years, five years. And they're making a commitment to their school, realizing the commitment that they're making and the job -- and the work that they need to put into it.

It's not just, "Oh, I'm joining a board.

I like kids. I like schools. I want to help out.

I want to give back to the public for a year or so."

No. So I'm hoping that you're doing on-boarding with the two new board members that are here and anyone else that comes on who is currently there.

This is a commitment. Our commitment is four years, and I think many of us have just upped it to eight years, we're going to be serving.

You've got to be invested. And I want your board to be invested, because that is the biggest red flag on any school that we see Board

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Invite people, okay? Often people don't realize it's even happening. It always should be at the beginning of your agenda, and any topic, whether or not it's on your agenda. You find out so much from kids and parents and others in your community. Invite it, public comment.

I mean, I would say you want to have at least five or six people in every meeting. But, really -- and be welcoming. Because we hear of boards all the time, they are not welcoming to public comment. And that's the beginning of the end, also, when that happens.

So I put you in the hot seat for a moment there -- so thank you very much, Mr. Trujillo.

Curious about long-term planning for the school. So as it relates to the board, we want people -- I want people that are going to be there at least three years, commitment to the school.

What about on -- so -- Ms. Haas Moskowitz, what is your long-term plan? What is your, like -- let me try -- I'm not using words well.

What's your long-term planning with the school? You've had a lot of turnover. You're the fourth administrator in five years.

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MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Thank you for that question, Commissioner.

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VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: It seems like every time I go to a graduation, I meet somebody new.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: There's nothing I would like more than to go over in great detail everything I feel about what I've learned about the school organizationally in terms of leadership, in terms of its culture.

And I think you can tell a little bit from some of the sharing that there's actions that are confidential that I don't feel comfortable speaking to; although I would joyfully do so.

And I would joyfully figure out -- I've so appreciated the comment about how important it is for us to stay engaged with one another and find it in our hearts, no matter how hurt or upset we are, to remember that we are humans that all struggle and all suffer and find that common ground.

And I want to be that person and believe that I am most of the time.

And so that doesn't mean that it's easy navigating all kinds of things that have come up in people's minds and they're realities.

So where I'm going with this is that I

can't retire. But I also can't work someplace that I'm not inspired by or that I don't believe has purpose for me or that I don't feel called to.

And I feel all of that here. But that does not make it easy.

So what is my commitment? It's enormous. It's infinite. My resilience is also pretty good.

Am I the person that the school wants and the community wants? I guess that's yet to be determined, through a, hopefully, a very robust evaluation.

Because I do agree in avenues and systems for processing concerns, complaints, as well as for impromptu conversations and relationship-building.

So what I want to do is clear. Whether that is to remain the choice, we'll see.

VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Thank you. Thank you for your candor.

I would -- whatever's -- you know, it's, like, I can be at The Boxcar and somebody talks to me for 20 minutes about -- this happened last Sunday during football -- talks to me about the program. And somebody else says something entirely different to me when I'm someplace else. And -- you know.

So I know the -- in every institution,

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have been navigating a place that's all new to me. I'm here brand new -- I mean, I lived in the West, and I visited Santa Fe. But I've been here a year and a half.

My family, my friends, my community are all far away in Florida. My grandchildren are here, and I'm here, and it's a beautiful place.

And there was a lot of turnover when I walked in. And there were systems that were not particularly in place that I would like to have seen them in place.

So I've worked really, really hard, I think, to bring the school to a place where we can find each other. I believe that. That's my intention, whether it came across that way or not. But I know where my intentions were.

So I'm saying that, to answer your question, is I am a very loyal and committed person. I will stay here the rest of my working days. And with the amazing debt that I incurred moving to Santa Fe with housing and the difficulties of things, that may be a long time. I may have to work way longer than I thought.

That is irrelevant to your question, except that I have to keep working. I am 68, and I school, whatever it is, there's always going to be some sort of, you know, conflict, some sort of displeasure, some sort of whatever.

The question is how is it dealt with to get to the other side?

And I -- you know, hearing you today -because we've never really had a chance. I mean, I've seen you at the school and everything else. But your answers to the questions today, and, Mr. Trujillo, your commitment to this board, makes me want you guys to thrive together, you know, to take this school to the next level, where -- I mean, I think it's at a great level already, because I was going to bring up what's next.

But I just want things to work out in a way that people feel -- all of you, the new board members also -- you feel you're in an environment that you're nurturing yourself, you're being nurtured, and you're having purpose.

Ultimately, it's about these amazing kids that came and -- today. It's all about them. And as long as we stay kid-focused -- I say this all the time. If the people across the street in the Roundhouse could watch the way we work -- doesn't matter that we are politically split on one or the

other. We're focused on one thing. We know our job. It's charter school kids. I think it's why we get so much done, and I think it's why we're such a good Commission.

I want things to happen for your school that way as well. I want continuity and longevity for all of you. I don't know that I'll be here another five. I know that I'm serving another four. But God forbid, a third term?

Which leads me to what's next. When I run into people and I talk to parents that I know that are at your school, one thing that comes up all the time is, "Why don't we have a middle school? Why don't we have grades six through eight?"

And I said, "Well, that's -- it's not because of us."

I said -- I mean, I am only speaking for myself here, of course. I would entertain it in a heartbeat; okay?

Location is going to be the hardest thing, because I can't see the Commission ever allowing a middle school on a college campus. And real estate is challenging in Santa Fe.

But I -- you know, there's the need. And this isn't to be critical of Santa Fe Public Schools

Right? Are they leaders or just bystanders and doing whatever?

There's no one I know more qualified and sets a better example than Mr. Kavanaugh on that. I would just encourage the board to be open to that as the next big step; okay?

Okay.

And that -- I may have a Columbo moment, I don't know. But that is it for now.

THE CHAIR: Commissioner Ingham.

COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Okay. I hope that
I'm -- I wonder if I missed something. But I wanted

12 I'm -- I wonder if I missed something. But I wa 13 to ask about, first, student attendance. And I 14 recognize that in a -- in the situation you are, 15 college courses don't take attendance. And so I 16 don't know if that's the issue.

But the fact that your attendance has gone down straight on -- at least that's what we've seen. And then with the new Vistas, who knows what that means, but it's way lower.

Can you speak to what's going on with attendance? Because I do believe high school kids are not -- that's one of the things that's really difficult, that transition to being so -- that you have to manage your own time.

in any way. But middle school is challenging. And finding the right people for middle -- one of the schools we just did was six, seven, eight. Would you remind me?

They focused on the middle school grades, and they're doing really well because they're focused on these kids and their ages and their challenges.

There's a school we just approved -- it'll be opening next fall -- called Equip, K-5. They say they're a college preparatory charter school. K-5. So their whole focus is reading is foundational to absolutely everything. Everything. Starts with reading. In K.

And they want -- they know that their families and their kids are already thinking, like, where am I going to be in 15 years, whatever it might be? And the kids might tour UNM. They're just thinking, you know, down-line.

And so I really believe that using the model that you have -- I mean, imagine, Ernest, what you could do with sixth, seventh, and eighth graders, you know? Because they're finding out who they are in the world. They're going to lay their foundation for are they kind and empathetic or not?

You spoke to that a little bit. But I'd like to know what you're doing about the attendance.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Thank you, Commissioner. Also happy for that question, because I didn't know how I wanted to bring up this subject that I think is connected. And that, for me, is the most -- I guess I believe is the most under-identified challenge to educational process and maybe life process. And that is trauma.

And I've been doing this long enough that I don't feel that it's anything new; however, I do feel it's significantly more profound than I've ever seen it in all of my years in schools.

And I've worked all over the country, in all levels. Started as a preschool teacher, and I've taught in universities. So just watching, listening, and observing.

And It's -- for me, it's a huge concern. And I would say there is a direct -- and it's growing rapidly. And every year, I feel it more and more.

And so specifically -- we're a small school. So we know our students. We talk to them, we know them, we know their families, as much as we can and more than others. And the stories, and the

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sharings around trauma of just not being able to get out of bed to get to school, to be there, is not uncommon. So I would say that that, I believe, is a huge influence on that.

I'm also concerned about -- we've tried to run a variety of different reports on attendance to try to get down to what it really is.

And I'm not satisfied that -- I'm just not satisfied that our data -- I'm not even saying that one way or the other -- is just -- is right. So that's something I'm also working on is, just, can we get real numbers for attendance, you know, every period, and how that's -- from PowerSchool, from -- and so I'm a little concerned about that.

I'm very, very happy with the way we handle it, because we still do calls. Like, we take attendance, and then we have an amazing staff person, bilingual -- we call. So they may not be sitting in that chair, but we know where they are. If we don't and the parent doesn't, we figure it out. And that's rare. It's usually -- so social-emotional learning, trauma-informed education is a huge priority at TMP. I think it may always have been. Maybe it wasn't explicitly stated in that way. I wasn't here.

see things are wrong and we try to make it better. We have to. We have to do that.

And if we're going to ask our students to do that every single day and every single class, then we have to do it, too.

So there's a lot of challenge involved in being at school. And I think for a lot of our students who are facing depression, trauma, or are victims of violence, who, the number of -- and this is not a problem. Just the number of parental deaths has gone up.

It's -- "problem" is not the word. It's just sad.

And I do -- I just want to mention it, that I do think it's affecting our students being present and being marked "Here."

But we know where they are. And we talk to their guardians, the parents, the people who are raising them. And then we talk to them.

And then I send the letters out. And then we have meetings and invite -- it's build relationships, and we're doing everything we can for the right reason, which is because we believe in them and relationships, and we want them to be healthy and happy people.

I know it is for me as an educator. It's fundamental. And I think anyone in this room who has experienced trauma -- I know I have -- it's hard for me to do anything. It's hard for me to be my best self, to get work done and in and so forth. Completion -- I think it's not only affecting attendance; it affects work completion as well, that translates to grades and so forth.

To me, it's one of the root causes to any of the concerns about being there. We address that. We have a full-time service dog now, an emotional support dog. And I think you know about our ADW program with the dogs. That has been huge.

We have students, I don't know if they'd even come if they didn't know that labradoodle was waiting -- so that was really helpful.

By the way, that's for staff, too. It is all about the kids. I get that. And I've also been one that said it's also about the adults, because the adults are with the students. And we have to figure out our stuff, too, and be our best selves and model learning and risk-taking and all the things -- and do what we say.

I appreciate the comments that it's nice to see that we're approaching improvement, that we

And we also want them to be at school because if they're not there, the learning is hampered.

COMMISSIONER INGHAM: I had hoped -- I'm going to use the "C" word. I had hoped we were getting over the trauma from COVID that it should be that our attendance figures should be, you know, increasing.

I mean, it's the same thing with going back to work and people are change- -- I understand it's all -- but we have to take some real substantive efforts to get the kids in school.

And you've described what you could do. I think we all need to look at this. Because it's not just your problem. But it is clear here in the paper. I just need to ask what your response is.

MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: Appreciate the question. I hope you don't misunderstand me. I'm not necessarily connecting it to COVID. I think there's other reasons contributing to the trauma.

COMMISSIONER INGHAM: So the other two questions -- Chair Gipson, the other two questions I have are not specifically pointed at the school, but to us. And is this still an appropriate time to ask those questions?

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| 1 | Okay. | 1 | MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: We added staff. And |
| 2 | Well, so one of them, there's a mention of | 2 | I think I mentioned JMP in the application. |
| 3 | the SpEd CAP. I don't have any understanding of | 3 | THE CHAIR: So that at this point in time, |
| 4 | what that SpEd CAP was for or what it was. It says | 4 | there is okay. I think we're good. Yeah. Any |
| 5 | it's in place now. Does this have anything | 5 | further questions? Sure. |
| 6 | THE CHAIR: So the SpEd CAP was in place | 6 | VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: (Consults with |
| 7 | in August when the renewal site visit took place. | 7 | Chair) |
| 8 | The SpEd the Office of Special Ed closed the CAP | 8 | THE CHAIR: Okay. Can we take a break? |
| 9 | out in December. So the CAP is closed. They no | 9 | VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Like, five. To the |
| 10 | longer have an OSE cap. | 10 | restroom if you need to and come right back. We |
| 11 | COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Okay. | 11 | need to work out something. Five real minutes, |
| 12 | THE CHAIR: It's timing. So when the | 12 | 300 seconds. |
| 13 | rating came through, they did they no longer | 13 | (Recess taken, 1:48 p.m. to 1:53 p.m.) |
| 14 | they're now in compliance. | 14 | VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: 297. We're starting |
| 15 | COMMISSIONER INGHAM: So that had nothing | 15 | 298. 299. 300. |
| 16 | to do with what we heard today? | 16 | If you're out there in the hallway, come |
| 17 | THE CHAIR: Correct. | 17 | on in. |
| 18 | COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Okay. | 18 | All right. Okay. |
| 19 | THE CHAIR: We have no we've checked | 19 | With regards to The MASTERS Program, I |
| 20 | with OSE. They have no additional complaints. So | 20 | move that the Public Education Commission approve |
| 21 | to we have no record of any complaints being | 21 | the renewal application for The MASTERS Program for |
| 22 | filed to any entity. | 22 | a five-year term without conditions. |
| 23 | COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Okay. | 23 | COMMISSIONER BURT: Second. |
| 24 | On the governance council, was the second | 24 | THE CHAIR: There's a motion by |
| 25 | question was in our thing, it says the two at the | 25 | Commissioner Carrillo and a second by Commissioner |
| 25 | question was in our timing, it says the two at the | 23 | Commissioner Carmio and a second by Commissioner |
| | 207 | | 209 |
| 1 | | , | |
| 1 | bottom were it says resigned, with an "R" on it. | 1 | Burt. |
| 2 | I think it's kind of important to know. Is that | 2 3 | Any discussion? |
| 3 | resigned or removed? | 4 | (No response.) |
| 4 5 | THE CHAIR: Does the R mean resigned or | 5 | THE CHAIR: If not, Commissioner Beck. |
| 6 | removed? | 6 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Burt. |
| - | COMMISSIONER INGHAM: It says resigned. | | COMMISSIONER BURT: Yes. |
| 7 | THE CHAIR: Right. Could it be removed? | 7 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Taylor. |
| 8 | DR. KELLY TRUJILLO: There was one former | 8 | COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. |
| 9 | board member that you heard from today during public | 9 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Armijo. |
| 10 | comments that was removed. | 10 | (No response.) |
| 11 | COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Okay. So that does | 11 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Manis. |
| 12 | color the understanding a little bit about the | 12 | COMMISSIONER MANIS: Yes. |
| 13 | governance board. Okay. That's my questions. | 13 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Brauer. |
| 14 | THE CHAIR: So I just in your | 14 | COMMISSIONER BRAUER: Yes. |
| 15 | application, you indicated that you had hired | 15 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner |
| 16 | someone to help work with IEPs. | 16 | Clahchischilliage. |
| 17 | MS. HAAS MOSKOWITZ: We have an entire | 17 | COMMISSIONER CLAHCHISCHILLIAGE: Yes. |
| 18 | we have a whole team of people who do that. And in | 18 | SECRETARY BECK: Commissioner Ingham. |
| 19 | addition to that, I've asked JMP, which is an agency | 19 | COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Yes, but with an |
| 20 | that does that work, and they help us support our | 20 | explanation. |
| 21 | State reporting as well. They also work with us on | 21 | THE CHAIR: Yeah. He can do that. |
| 22 | quality control with our IEPs. | 22 | COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Okay. I'm going to |
| 23 | THE CHAIR: Okay. Because the application | 23 | say |
| 24 | specifically said you hired someone. The way I | 24 | THE CHAIR: Wait. We all need we |
| 2.5 | | | chould all vota, and than voll one complete |
| 25 | interpret it but putting on you added staff. | 25 | should all vote, and then you can complain. |

| | | 1 | 3 T (1 4ges 210 to 213) |
|----|--|----------|--|
| | 210 | | 212 |
| 1 | SECRETARY BECK: Vice Chair Carrillo. | 1 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. Anyone else? |
| 2 | VICE CHAIR CARRILLO: Yes. | 2 | (No response.) |
| 3 | SECRETARY BECK: Chair Gipson. | 3 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. Congratulations. |
| 4 | THE CHAIR: Yes. | 4 | Congratulations. |
| 5 | SECRETARY BECK: Secretary Beck, yes. | 5 | (Renewal hearings adjourned at 1:58 p.m.) |
| 6 | There are nine votes for and zero votes | 6 | (reme was neurings and emine and recorption) |
| 7 | against. The motion passes. | 7 | |
| 8 | THE CHAIR: Thank you. | 8 | |
| 9 | Commissioner Ingham. | 9 | |
| 10 | COMMISSIONER INGHAM: Okay. I am going to | 10 | |
| 11 | say I hate trauma. And I hate being slapped with | 11 | |
| 12 | trauma at the last second. And it is very difficult | 12 | |
| 13 | for me to manage situations when we get pressed into | 13 | |
| 14 | a situation where we have to make a decision, and | 14 | |
| 15 | all of a sudden, things come up. | 15 | |
| 16 | So I'm going to say I heard the voices in | 16 | |
| 17 | the audience. I don't discount those those | 17 | |
| 18 | voices. It is very troubling. And I heard that you | 18 | |
| 19 | had to remove that person. | 19 | |
| 20 | There may be good reasons for all these | 20 | |
| 21 | things. It may all be perfectly legitimate. But we | 21 | |
| 22 | have no way of knowing what's going on, and we have | 22 | |
| 23 | no time to deal with it. | 23 | |
| 24 | So, yes, we have to vote yes for this | 24 | |
| 25 | right now. But all I'm going to say is I heard | 25 | |
| 23 | fight how. But all I'm going to say is I heard | 23 | |
| | 211 | | 213 |
| | 211 | | 213 |
| 1 | those voices. And it genuinely hurts me that that | 1 | BEFORE THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION |
| 2 | trauma is going on in your school. | 2 | STATE OF NEW MEXICO |
| 3 | I know how much I hate it, and I know how | 3 4 | |
| 4 | much you guys must hate it. | 5 | |
| 5 | I would beg of you guys to talk to each | 6 | |
| 6 | other, get past this. The actions of dismissing, | 7 | REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE |
| 7 | canceling, that kind of stuff just doesn't work for | 8 | I, Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR, CCR #219, Certified |
| 8 | me. And so I would ask you guys, be the adults in | 9 | Court Reporter in the State of New Mexico, do hereby |
| 9 | the room and and get this resolved. Thank you. | 10 | certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true |
| 10 | THE CHAIR: Commissioner Beck. | 11 | transcript of proceedings had before the said |
| 11 | SECRETARY BECK: Yeah. And I think it was | 12 | NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION, held in the |
| 12 | brought up before. But in my little less than two | 13 | State of New Mexico, County of Santa Fe, in the |
| 13 | years, I've seen a strong correlation between the | 14 15 | matter therein stated. |
| 14 | quality and tenure of the governing council and the | 16 | In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand on December 2, 2024. |
| 15 | strong operation of the school. | 17 | nana di Doccinoti 2, 2027. |
| 16 | So I would hope that the the turnover | 18 | |
| 17 | turmoil of the governing council is now over. They | 19 | |
| 18 | are all committed to continuing to make this school | | Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR-CRR, NM CCR #219 |
| 19 | the excellent school that it is, and that they're | 20 | BEAN & ASSOCIATES, INC. |
| 20 | strongly invested in continuity and consistency | | 201 Third Street, NW, Suite 1630 |
| 21 | within that. | 21 | Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102 |
| 22 | And to Commissioner Brauer not Chair | 22 | License Expires: December 31, 2025 |
| 23 | Brauer but Commissioner Brauer's point that it's | 22 | |
| 24 | in your value system of respect for everyone | 23 24 | |
| 25 | involved. | 25 | Job No.: 148P (CC) |
| | | " | (55) |

| 1 | BEFORE THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION |
|----|---|
| 2 | STATE OF NEW MEXICO |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE |
| 8 | I, Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR, CCR #219, Certified |
| 9 | Court Reporter in the State of New Mexico, do hereby |
| 10 | certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true |
| 11 | transcript of proceedings had before the said |
| 12 | NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION, held in the |
| 13 | State of New Mexico, County of Santa Fe, in the |
| 14 | matter therein stated. |
| 15 | In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my |
| 16 | hand on December 2, 2024. |
| 17 | |
| 18 | Cynthea Chefman |
| 19 | Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR-CRR, NM CCR #219 |
| 20 | BEAN & ASSOCIATES, INC. 201 Third Street, NW, Suite 1630 |
| 21 | Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102 License Expires: December 31, 2025 |
| 22 | nicense Expires. December 31, 2023 |
| 23 | |
| 24 | |
| 25 | Job No.: 148P (CC) |





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