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Rio Gallinas School of Ecology and the Arts
Governing Council Final Meeting Minutes for
Tuesday, March 22, 2016
West Las Vegas Board Room
179 Bridge Street, 5:30pm

PROCEDURAL:

Meeting called to order at 5:32pm by Rudy Castellano, Acting Chair. Quorum declared present. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Members present: J. Emilio Aragon, Rudy Castellano, Crystal Gallegos, Michael Immerman, Georgina Ortega. Staff: Gerald Garcia, director.

Interim Secretary: Carol Winkel.

Agenda : The agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Immerman and seconded by Mr. Aragon. There were none apposed.

Minutes: The minutes for February 16, 2016 were approved as moved by Mr. Immerman and seconded by Mr. Aragon. There were none apposed.

Next regular meeting: set for March 15, 2016, subsequently changed to March 22, 2016, to be held at the West Las Vegas Board Room.

Public Comments: There were none.

Action Items:

Financial Report: Mr. Garcia, Director, presented the financial report. Action was taken approving the Bar 1516-0028-I, SEG Final Unit Value Increase, on a motion by Mr. Immerman and seconded by Mr. Aragon. The Payroll & Accounts Payable Payment Vouchers for February 2016 were approved, as moved again by Mr. Immerman and seconded by Mr. Aragon. There were none apposed.

Employee Handbook and the Student Handbook have been reviewed. Changes concerning consistent terminology will be made, recognizing that both are working documents. The Employee Handbook was approved on a motion made by Mr. Immerman and seconded by Ms. Ortega. There were none apposed. The Student Handbook was approved following a motion by Mr. Immerman and seconded by Mr. Aragon. There were none apposed.

Reports:

Food Services: There was discussion of the possibility of a mobile kitchen which would allow the serving of fresh vegetables and fruit, the advantages as well as concerns about regulations and permits.

Elementary and Middle School update: The K-3 program has been accepted by the district; awaiting approval by PED. A bathroom issue at the middle school was resolved. PARCC testing will begin.

Luna Update: still awaiting a response by President Sanchez concerning the new lease agreement.

Charter Renewal: Mr. Garcia reported that the Skype meeting held this morning with Synergy covered communication concerning information gathering; the process is on target.

Minutes for March 22, 2016 (cont.)

Director's Report: See attached. A less expensive auditor for the school year has been selected. Options concerning business management for the school were discussed; charges for Affability will increase, and consideration of other vendors or a part-time business manager was proposed. Mr. Garcia will check on these possibilities.

Committee Reports:

Director's Evaluation Committee: the evaluation of the director will be presented in the executive session.

Community Committee: Ms. Ortega reported on the upcoming seed exchange to be held at LCC and suggested involvement for fund-raising in the Cinco de Mayo activities.

Procedures Committee: Mr. Aragon reported on the review of the Personnel (Employee) Handbook with corrections and edits.

Future Business:

Grant-writing possibilities were discussed; Mr. Garcia will follow up on these.

Governing Council Retreat: will be held in the NMHU TEC building, the Curriculum Library, on April 16 from 8:00am to 12:00pm.

Protocol: Mr. Garcia will present a protocol for handling injuries on school grounds.

Announcements/Information:

Upcoming meetings of the WLV Finance Committee, the WLV Board, and the Luna Board were announced.

Executive Session: The chair called the Governing Council into executive session at 6:37, as moved by Mr. Immerman and seconded by Ms. Ortega, with Mr. Aragon, Mr. Castellano, Ms. Gallegos, Mr. Immerman, and Ms. Ortega present. Pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1 H (2), the director's evaluation and tort claims were discussed. The chair announced the return to open session at 7:45pm and that no action had been taken.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Minutes submitted by the interim secretary, Carol Winkel.