

Rio Gallinas School of Ecology and the Arts
Governing Council Meeting
Draft Minutes for
Tuesday, September 15, 2015
1107 Montezuma Street, 5:30pm

Crystal Gallegos

PROCEDURAL:

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by Crystal Gallegos, Chair. Quorum declared present.

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

Staff: Gerald Garcia, director, Karen Sickler, teacher. Guests: Flora Gallegos, parent.

Guest: Henry Narvaez, NMPSIA attorney.

Interim Secretary: Carol Winkel.

Approval of agenda: The agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Castellano and seconded by Mr. Immerman.

Approval of minutes: The August 11 minutes were accepted, as moved by Mr. Castellano and seconded by Mr. Immerman.

Next regular meeting: set for October 20.

Public Comments: Ms. Gallegos asked whether students had the requisite textbooks and workbooks. The list for MS science and math has not been submitted yet; otherwise, student needs have been met. The Math Connections sets are available. Ms. Gallegos urged teachers to make a wish list of supplies, which parents could help with.

New Business:

Calendar: A strategic planning meeting for the Governing Council is scheduled for October 10, a half-day retreat.

Director's Report: [See attached.] Ms. Karen Sickler is staff coordinator. The staff listing was corrected to read: Home Rm 7th -ELA-Social Studies, Karen Sickler; Home Rm 8th -Math-Science, Alma Rudolph. Concern regarding the enrollment in K-1 as 22 was expressed; the director said the number was acceptable and did not warrant a teacher's aide.

Employee Handbook: The training by the attorney regarding the policies and procedures in the handbook is intended for the employees, not particularly for the Governing Council. The handbook will be ordered.

Student Handbook: Teachers will check it before the GC retreat on October 1, so that the GC members can review the handbook (not updated since 2008-2009).

Improving Communication: Rio Gallinas is now on Facebook, thanks to Ms. Flora Gallegos. All GC members and staff are working on getting a riogallinas email address.

Pledge of Allegiance: will be conducted starting with the October meeting. Mr. Narvaez will donate a flag for the school's use.

Middle School update: Luna CC does not want to work with Rio Gallinas to provide lunch, so the school will continue to use WLW (Summit) meals. The director will review the proposals concerning facilities at LCC originally discussed with former president Dr. Campos with President Sanchez. Transportation is now improved with the former bus driver available to return the middle school students to the Montezuma campus closer to 3:00.

Having the director's office at the Luna campus is helpful. Mr. Garcia is able to conduct walk-throughs and provide support academically, as well as handle referrals. When he is not there, he is available to return immediately if needed; Ms. Aja is in charge when the director is away on school business. The bathrooms need locks but expensive because of cinder block frames. Mr. Garcia will discuss other possibilities with Luna. Food is still an issue with the students.

Minutes for Tuesday, September 15, 2015 (continued)

Committee assignments: The director evaluation committee should report quarterly (first in November). Other committees should be meeting.

Change in order of agenda as requested by Mr. Narvaez. Closed meeting / Executive session: It was moved by Mr. Castellano and seconded by Mr. Immerman that the executive session be held at this point in the agenda. Roll call of GC members approved the action. The chair called the Governing Council into executive session at 6:28, with Mr. Aragon, Mr. Castellano, Ms. Gallegos, Mr. Immerman, and Ms. Ortega present. The director Mr. Garcia and Mr. Narvaez, NMPSIA attorney, were also in attendance. Pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1(H)(2), tort claim and limited personnel issues were discussed. The chair announced the return to open session, at 6:50, and that no action had been taken.

Action Items:

Review of Financial Reports: Review of financial reports, BARs 1516-0005-IB, 1516-0006-I, and 1516-0007-I, as well as the Payroll & Accounts Payable Payment Vouchers for August 2015, were approved by the Council, as moved by Mr. Castellano and seconded by Mr. Immerman.

Advertisement for recruiting Governing Council members was approved on a motion made by Mr. Aragon and seconded by Mr. Immerman.

Amendment of the Meeting Notice Resolution (change in regular meeting date) was noted

Committee Reports:

Mandatory training for GC members Oct. 29-31 was noted.

WLV Finance Committee scheduled for October 13.

Teacher workshop (prior to school opening); went well.

Announcements:

Ice Cream Social: successful; people signed up for committees.

Adjournment: On a motion by Mr. Immerman, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00.

Minutes submitted by the interim secretary, Carol Winkel.