

**RIO GALLINAS SCHOOL
GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, September 10, 2025
APPROVED MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Chairman Jude Romero.

Present: Jude Romero, James Esquibel, Raymond Sanchez and Richard Vigil, Gabriella Martinez present via Zoom. Quorum Present. Also in attendance, Director Aja Currey. Guests included Janel Williams-Salazar and Katherine Lucero.

Pledge: Led by Jude Romero.

Proof of Notice: Posted on the school webpage and office door.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by James Esquibel, 2nd by Raymond Sanchez. Motion carried.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: August 13, 2025: Approved with the spelling correction of “Bylaws”. Motion by Raymond Sanchez, 2nd by Gabriella Martinez. Motion carried.

Discussion:

1. School Mission and Vision revision of statement with updating wording to better reflect the school, “As an experiential learning school for Ecology and the Arts the crew at Rio Gallinas School is committed to grow a culture of academic excellence, service and caring through self-discovery and responsible leadership in the local and global community.”

2. Governing Council committee roles are needing to be updated and rearranged with adding an additional committee and combining two separate committees into one. Committees would consist of, Strategic Planning & Performance as one committee, Finance and Audit, Director’s Performance and Evaluation, with an additional committee of Development and Facilities. Members discussed possibilities of who will be on each committee.

3. Governing Council roles will need to be updated to eliminate a council member staying in the same role per Bylaw terms. Roles should be updated after two years. An additional parent member is also needed for the council. Notice will be made to parents to apply for the Governing Council Parent Member position. Current council members discussed possible position nominations of Mr. Equibel and Mr. Sanchez for chair. Mr. Vigil and Mr. Romero as possible nominations for Vice Chair, with Gabriella

Martinez possibly holding the secretary position. Official roles and nominations will work on being finalized at the next monthly meeting.

Action Items:

1. **Approval of BARS: N/A**
2. **Approval of Check Warrants:** Motion by James Esquibel, 2nd by Richard Vigil. Motion carried.
3. **Approval of Behavior Policy: Motion to Lay on the Table for attorney review. Motion by Richard Vigil, 2nd by James Esquibel.**
4. **Approval of Cell Phone Policy: Motion to Lay on the Table for attorney review. Motion by Richard Vigil, 2nd by James Esquibel.**

Reports: Directors Report: Director Aja Currey briefly touched base on the following items:

- Rio Gallinas Watershed Institute Invertebrates at the Rio Gallinas River
- Kindergarten Espanola Wildlife Refuge
- NMHU MESA Stem Science Showdown at Storrie Lake
- School teams by classroom homerooms
- Shelter in Place and Lockdown drills
- PCSNM Retreat held for Charter Leaders
- Director and Michelle Cambron attended the AREA Conference. Director Currey received an award for the Triple AC and?
- Director Currey and Teacher Maren Woods attend and presented at the Community Schools Conference
- UWC Philosophy of Reading beginning
- Deadlines and reporting tasks for NMPED
- BOY testing is still being conducted
- Amira state AI based program will be replaced with iStation
- Begin process of moving to state charter

Public Comments: No public comments were held.

Future Business:

1. Behavior Policy
2. Cell Phone Policy

Announcements:

1. WLW Finance Committee: Tuesday, October 07, 2025 @ 3:30 p.m.
2. Rio Gallinas Council Meeting: Wednesday, October 08, 2025 @5:30 p.m.
3. WLW School Board Meeting: Thursday, October 09, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Action Items to be included at the next meeting:

1. School Mission and Vision revision
2. Governing Council Committee Roles
3. Governing Council Roles

Adjourned: 6:51

Submitted by:

Katherine Lucero

Rio Gallinas School

Administrative Assistant