4300 Blake Rd. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87121

PHONE: 505-243-1118/FAX: 505-242-7444

**Mission**

RFK Charter School prepares, motivates, and supports students to achieve their college and career goals in partnership with their families and the community.

**Governance Council Meeting Agenda**

**Thursday, March 16, 2017 5:30 pm**

**Present**:

Governance Council Members: Margie Lockwood, Anthony Harkness, Ron Burton, Michelle Felicia Renteria, Jennifer Cornish, and Sister Agnes Kaczmarek

Staff: Robert Baade, and Irene Sanchez

Absent: Tina Garcia and Fernando Ortega

Guests: Rick Miera, Ben McCraken, Fernando, April and Aunt ? Gallegos

5:40 Motion to approve agenda made by Jennifer, seconded by Michelle Renteria, Unanimously approved.

5:41 Motion to approve February 2017 meeting minutes made by Ron Burton, seconded by Sistner Agnes Kaczmarek

Announcements:

* Robert coauthored the book, *Sleep Disorder in Adolescents*. Study was done on all RFK students and funded by the Simon Foundation.
* Next meeting will be held on April 27th instead of the 20th.

Public Comment

5:47 Presentation by former State Rep. Rick Miera

* His son is a RFK teacher and the boys’ basketball coach. Team ended the season with 19 wins and 0 losses; and won their division and the state championship.
* Would like to hang the championship banners in the gym and to request donations to pay for them and a small banner for the coach.
* The NM Athletic Association will ask probably ask RFK to move up a division.
* Robert also requested former Rep. Miera to assist RFK with getting funding for auto/welding/culinary art programs and the health clinic.

5:59 **Finance Report**

6:08 Motion to approve Cash Disbursement made by Ron Burton and Jennifer Cornish seconded. Unanimously approved.

6:10 RFR 21D approval – Ron Burton motioned to approve; seconded by Jennifer Cornish Unanimously approved.

Audit findings - Irene and Margie worked together to develop corrective responses to avoid future audit findings. Irene will do a quarterly reporting on each of the audit findings to see how the corrective responses are working. First report will be made to the GC in June.

Budget Reductions – Special Session Report

* The school growth helped with the cuts
* Solvency was $20,000 vs. $57,000
* Student Unit value may be decreased to $4,000 was $4,040. Can’t run projections for next year without the unit value
* Special Education numbers have grown - a new Special Ed teacher will need to be hired.
* Training and experience – $43,000 decrease in budget
* Currently looking at $100,000 less in next year’s budget. However, the legislative session isn’t over. Anticipate special session- with additional cuts. Totaling close to $250,000
* Kellogg is reviewing first draft of grant for auto body and welding programs
* Will pursue “Below the Line” initiatives
* Any GC training and conferences requests will need to be made ahead of time to be added to the budget

6:50 Presentation by Ben McCraken and Fernando Gallegos along with his mother and aunt.

* Ben McCraken is the artist in residence at RFK. He stated that Art gives his students an opportunity to learn and grow. It gives them confidence and strengthens their problem solving and critical thinking skills. It also teaches them perseverance and learning from failure.
* In his class students learn about starting a business; about taxes; and managing employees. They also learn chemistry- when making their own glazes. They discuss physics, geology and history. It teaches them to be respectful of themselves and others.
* It is a class that requires 50 minutes of focus each day; this training helps with their other classes.
* Fernando Gallegos is one of his best students- worked in Ben’s studio last summer.
* Fernando stated that Mr. McCraken is the greatest teacher he has ever met. He sees art in his future. He wants to continue to do this every day and share this gift with everyone. He wants all of his fellow students to get the opportunity to explore subjects they love.
* April, Fernando’s mother, stated the program has done a lot for her son. She added the class has brought him so much confidence and the program should continue at RFK.
* Robert is committed to sustaining the programs.
* The GC also agreed
* Invitation to the GC to attend the Art show May 4th at 5:30 at South Valley Academy.

6:55 **Immigrant Rights Policy for RFK-** Tabled for next meeting

7:12 **GC Training Opportunities**

* 5 hours of training are required every academic year
* Forward completed training information to Michelle and submit copy of completion certificates to Irene
* If GC members want to do trainings online, Irene can set it up
* Robert will check with APS to see If Irene can do an audit training

7:29 **Bios on all GC members**

* Each GC will need to give bio to Irene for the RFK web site. This is also a looked at by the auditors. Margie gave the board a copy of a bio.

7:35 **Fiscal Management Policies and Procedures revisions**

* Primary concern is the Audit Committee- Need a volunteer member with finance experience.
* Jennifer will reach out to Mike Perez, past GC member and Robert is waiting to meet with Michael Moore, retired UNM faculty.
* The audit committee meets twice a year
* Facilities committee - Anthony is interested
* Jennifer and Margie have been reviewing governance policy and procedures

7:40 **Executive Director Report**- See Attachment

7: 45 **Adjournment** - Ron Burton motioned to adjourn meeting and Jennifer Cornish seconded. Unanimously approved.

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RFK Charter School Governance Council President