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## 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 Minutes**

**Thursday, February 27, 2025**

**4:30 p.m.**

RFK Governance Council Secretary, April Gallegos called a regular Governance Council Meeting on February 27, 2025. The time was 4:38 p.m.

**ALL BOARD MEMBERS:**

April Gallegos, Secretary

Lawrence Barela, Treasurer

Bob Edgar, Member

**ZOOM:**

LaNika Bullington, Member

**CONFERENCE CALL:**

Carlos Caballero, Member

**ABSENT (excused):**

Mark Walch, President

**QUORUM:**

Yes

**STAFF:**

Robert Baade,

Irene Sanchez

Aaron Arellano

**GUESTS:**

None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

RFK GC Treasurer, Lawrence Barela makes a motion to accept the February 27, 2025, Meeting Agenda with one change to “Public Comment” and an addition following, “Housekeeping”. Agenda will read, “Public Comment” without Mark Walch as the Presenter. Then “Marketing Strategies” with RFK GC Member, Bob Edgar as the presenter will follow, “Housekeeping”. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. The Agenda for February 27, 2025, has been accepted and carried out.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 23, 2025:**

RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2025. RFK GC Member Bob Edgar seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2025, are accepted and carried out.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**:

RFK GC Treasurer, Lawrence Barela makes a motion to move on to the next agenda topic after proper time given for “Public Comment” RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. RFK GC moves on to the next agenda topic.

**NEW GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:**

RFK Executive Director, Robert Baade summarized An Act by The Legislature of the State of New Mexico. Relating to Public Schools, Changing Graduation Requirements for Students Entering Ninth Grade in the 2025-2026 School Year. Mr. Baade passed around data from the legislature and explained how RFK will implement these requirements.

Mr. Baade states, “there are times a student may not be in a situation where “they” could do the Portfolio or the Capstone. For example, say they transferred in at the middle of the school year. They would not be at school long enough for this kind of process. So, what we at RFK will do is create an expectation for the Digital Portfolio and an expectation that the students take Capstone, but it is not going to be a requirement, and it will not be a barrier to graduate high school.”

**RFK MIDDLE SCHOOL REPORT:**

RFK Middle School Principal, Aaron Arellano prepared and presented The Middle School Report for February 27, 2025. The Middle School Report is attached to these minutes.

Some information includes,

* Principal Arellano has been observing classrooms for certain aspects of RFK’s 10 non-negotiables for teachers. Those that are struggling, Mr. Arellano will arrange for coverage, or he will cover so that teachers can go observe their fellow teachers to get an idea of how to use these practices. Overall, Mr. Arellano is impressed with how well teachers are catching on.
* Testing season is arriving, and teachers are following curriculum maps and making sure all of content standards and benchmarks are in place to support students.
* Afterschool programs will kick off soon and Mr. Arellano is especially excited about having RFK HS Teacher, Keith Sanchez and the New Mexico Youth Art Ambassadors (NMYAA) begin working with the MS students. This will be an outdoor program that will incorporate creative art, writing practices with journal entries.
* Student enrollment as of 2/25/25 is 79. 19 sixth graders, 24 seventh graders, and 36 eighth graders. With four more added since then.

RFK GC Member, Bob Edgar commends MS Principal on the new students and asks what was the reason that some students withdrew. Mr. Arellano lets the GC know that one was due to fear of being deported, another was due to custodial issues and one due to personal reasons.

**RFK HIGH SCHOOL REPORT:**

RFK High School Principal, Kara Sanchez sent The High School Report for February 27, 2025. RFK Middle School Principal, Aaron Arellano presented High School Report for February 27, 2025.

Some information includes,

* Current enrollment as of 2/25/2025 is 241 at the High School.
* We have 60 students on our tentative graduation list.
* Our Refocus program is up and running. With the goal of having students earn their way back into the classrooms with access to mentors if needed.
* Students will continue to be watched through RFK’s Early Warning System.

**LEGSLATIVE UPDATE:**

Executive Director Robert Baade gave a brief Legislative update. Mr. Baade especially touched on certain appropriations that would change RFK.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR JANUARY 2025:**

RFK GC Treasurer, Lawrence Barela, reports on the Finance Committee Report for January 2025 and encouraged approval for thirteen BARS.

RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve the Finance Committee Report for January 2025. RFK GC Member, LaNika Bullington seconded the motion. With a unanimous vote, “Yes” and no one opposing. The Finance Committee Report for January 2025 is accepted and carried out.

**CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR JANUARY 2025:**

RFK GC Treasurer, Lawrence Barela makes a motion to approve Cash Disbursements for January 2025 for $606,927.96. RFK GC Member, Bob Edgar, seconded the motion. With a unanimous vote, “Yes” and no one opposing. Cash Disbursements are accepted and carried out.

**BARS:**

1. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0022-D, Fund 11000 Operations. RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
2. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0023-I, Fund 27109 Instructional Materials. RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
3. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0024-I, Fund 29102 Direct Grants. RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
4. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0025-D, Fund 31703 SB-9 State Match. RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
5. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve, BAR# 001-051-2425-0026-I, Fund 23000 Activities Fund. RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.

1. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve, BAR# 001-051-2425-0027-D, Fund 28133 YCC. RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
2. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0028-I, Fund 31600 HB-33. RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
3. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0029-I, Fund 31701 SB-9. RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
4. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0031-I, Fund 24174 CTE – Carl Perkins. RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
5. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0043-I, Fund 29102 Direct Grants (Bee hive). RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
6. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0044-I, Fund 27502 CTE (Next Gen). RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
7. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0045-IB, Fund 29107 GRO Fund (Bernalillo County). RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.
8. RFK GC Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to approve BAR# 001-051-2425-0046-I, Fund 28133 YCC. RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. BAR is accepted and carried out.

**FISCAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:**

RFK Business Manager, Irene Sanchez reports on RFK Fiscal Management Policies and Procedures. RFK GC Secretary April Gallegos made a motion to approve Fiscal Policies and Procedures. RFK GC Member LaNika Bullington seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. Fiscal Policies and Procedures are accepted and carried out.

**BUDGET COMMITTEE (changing April’s meeting):**

A discussion about changing the date of the Regular Governance Council meeting took place. RFK’s Business Manager, Irene Sanchez mentioned that there are some conflicting events that would make it difficult to meet and pass a budget in time. RFK GC member, LaNika Bullington suggests April 14, 2025, for the GC Meeting. Financials for April and March can be reported in May. RFK Treasurer, Lawrence Barela makes a motion to approve moving the date to the RFK Governance Counsil meeting to April 14, 2025, and that financials from March and April will be reported in May. With a unanimous “Yes” vote and no one opposing. The date of the RFK GC meeting was accepted and carried out.

**ED SEARCH UPDATE:**

RFK GC Treasurer Lawrence Barela gave an update on the search for an Executive Director.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

RFK Charter School Executive Director, Robert Baade sent a report, and it is attached to these minutes.

**HOUSE KEEPING**:

None currently.

**MARKET STRATEGIES:**

RFK GC Member, Bob Edgar, sparks a discussion to get suggestions for marketing.

**ADJOURN:**

RFK Secretary, April Gallegos makes a motion to adjourn the Meeting. RFK GC member, Bob   
 Edgar, seconded the motion. With a unanimous, “Yes” vote and no one opposing. Meeting is adjourned at 6:41pm.

**Next meeting:**

March 27, 2025

**Minutes by:**

RFK GC Board Secretary, April Gallegos

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***Governance Council Secretary Signature***

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***Date***