

**APPROVED**

**RIO GRANDE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS  
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**April 18, 2023**

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS**

**Kathy McClendon, President**  
**Dr. Susan McConnell, Vice President**  
**Lee Baldwin, Treasurer**  
**Dr. Jenn Pena, Secretary**  
**Christine Mya-San**  
**Amer Child**  
**Mary Ellen Dannenberg**  
**Dana Flores**

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**AGENDA**

- A. Welcome And Call To Order, by Kathy McClendon at 6:39PM**
- B. ROLL CALL of Board Members & Welcome Staff and Guests by Jenn Peña**
- a. Kathy McClendon, President - present
  - b. Dr. Susan McConnell, Vice President - present
  - c. Lee Baldwin, Treasurer - absent
  - d. Dr. Jenn Peña, Secretary - present
  - e. Christine Mya-San - absent
  - f. Amer Child - present
  - g. Mary Ellen Dannenberg - present
  - h. Dana Flores - absent
  - i. Jordan Franco, Operations Director, present
  - j. Michele Platis, Curriculum Director, present
  - k. Rebekah Runyan, Business Manager, present
  - l. Kelly Callahan, Consultant, present
  - m. Dan Hill, Attorney, present
- C. \*Motion to \*Adopt The Agenda**
- a. Motion by Amer Child, seconded by Susan McConnell
  - b. Unanimously approved
- D. Pledge of Allegiance**
- E. \*Motion to \*Approve Minutes From March 21, 2023**
- a. Motion by Amer, seconded by Jenn Peña
  - b. Unanimously approved
- F. FINANCIALS**
- a. **\*Motion to Approve \* Monthly Financial Report, by Rebekah Runyan**
    - i. Motion by Amer Child, seconded by Kathy McClendon

- ii. Unanimously approved

**b. Discussion of financials**

- i. Working on spending down CSP, Daniel's Fund, and Charter Growth Fund
  - 1. Will be purchasing furniture, curriculum, etc.
- ii. Waiting on a food service BAR to be approved by PED (approved by Board at last meeting)
- iii. Waiting to hear from PED on overpayment of SEG
- iv. Continuing to wait on several funds/reimbursements caught up at PED
- v. K5 PLUS- in the air because limited interest from teachers and students
- vi. Section 218 (SSA)- final staff vote in May
- vii. Note that landlord is paying utilities and RioGAFA is paying him back. Dan says this is common, an administrative relief, and no reason to change at this time.

**c. \*Motion to Approve \*BAR's individually**

- i. BAR 583-000-2223-0023 IB- transportation funding \$561
- ii. Motion by Kathy McClendon, seconded by Jenn Peña
- iii. Unanimously approved

**G. Kelly's Follow-Up Report and CLR presentation by Kelly Callahan**

- a. Review of Culturally and Linguistically Responsive PCSNM presentation.
- b. Charters, especially ones like RioGAFA, are inherently addressing the requirements of Yazzie/Martinez (2018).
- c. Boards need to be aware of what schools need to be doing to ensure equitable policies and practices and support head administrators to implement on a daily basis.
- d. Kelly will send us information that can be used to support our evaluation of the directors to ensure their implementation of Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Teaching

**H. Instructional And Operations, Michele Platis and Jordan Franco**

**a. Instructional**

- i. Directors' Report
- ii. Data Reporting - reviewed dashboard and assessment. Seeing more growth in iReady than iStation.
  - 1. Jenn highlighted the growth of 6th graders from 3+ grades below to 1-2 grades below is inspiring
  - 2. Susan noted that this data is critical as a small school to adjust curriculum, to reach out to other educators. Also, correlate data with attendance. Celebrate growth and enrollment/lottery.
- iii. Staffing - hired a front desk clerk, she is helping tremendously

- iv. Schedule/Events – MAY 12 EVENT INFO, 6PM
  - 1. Accepting donations
  - 2. Teachers donating creations
  - 3. Susan donating a blanket
  - 4. Amer recommends adding something to the website so people can donate
- v. Students- March attendance 84%, 2% lower than February; currently enrolled 82
- vi. Recruitment Report- 130 seats offered in the lottery- secretary is following up with families, 28 accepted so far and 100% returning students!

**b. Operations**

- i. Directors’ Report
- ii. Property/Site - maintenance being done on outside
- iii. Safety and Security - finishing up door locks, all staff have door fobs, up to date on fire drills, etc.

**I. Governance**

- a. Documents Notice (if needed) Governing Board
  - i. Documents –GB Standards - A Look at the next two standards - 5 & 6
  - ii. Susan’s update on the possibility of a Work Retreat
    - 1. Kelly’s support is critically important and among the most important things the Board is doing
    - 2. The opportunity to work together in the same room would be great, consider policies in place in case of disagreement among Board Members
    - 3. Really focused on evaluation for Directors
    - 4. Wait until after July 1 and send a doodle poll for date options
  - iii. Upcoming July Charter School Conference - free, if interested

**J. Directors’ Comments**

- a. None at this time

**K. Governing Board Comments**

- a. Next Scheduled Meeting – May 16, 2023
- b. Adjournment at 7:53PM by Kathy McClendon