

Approved

**RIO GRANDE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS  
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
November 14, 2023**

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS**

**Kathy McClendon, President**  
**Dr. Susan McConnell, Vice President**  
**Dr. Jenn Peña, Secretary**  
**Christine Mya-San**  
**Amer Child**  
**Dana Flores**  
**Oren Ran**

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**AGENDA**

- A. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER by Kathy McClendon at 6:33pm.**
- B. ROLL CALL of Board Members & Welcome Staff and Guests by Dr. Jenn Peña**
- a. Kathy McClendon, President - present
  - b. Dr. Susan McConnell, Vice President - present
  - c. Dr. Jenn Peña, Secretary - present
  - d. Christine Mya-San - absent
  - e. Amer Child - present
  - f. Dana Flores - present
  - g. Oren Ran - present
  - h. Kelly Callahan, consultant - present
  - i. Vanessa Gonzales, business manager - present
  - j. Michele Platis, founder - present
  - k. Jordan Franco, founder - present
  - l. Dan Hill, attorney - present (arrived late, but available by text until his arrival)
- C. \*Motion to \*ADOPT THE AGENDA**
- a. Motion by Dana Flores, seconded by Oren Ran
  - b. Approved unanimously
- D. \*Motion to \*APPROVE MINUTES Board Meeting October 17, 2023**
- a. Motion by Amer Child, seconded by Kathy McClendon
  - b. Approved unanimously
- E. FINANCIALS**
- a. **\*Motion to \*APPROVE Monthly Financial Report**
    - i. Motion by Amer Child, seconded by Dana Flores
    - ii. Review of financial report by Vanessa Gonzales

iii. Unanimously approved

**b. \*Motion to \*APPROVE BARs (collectively ) - note: no specific amounts this month since all BARs are transfer and maintenance BARs**

- i. 2324-0009-T 24101 - Title I ESEA Transfer to function 1000
- ii. 2 2324-0010-M 24101 - Title I ESEA 2XXX Function Maintenance
- iii. 3 2324-0011-M 27127 - Community Schools Implementation Grant 2XXX Function Maintenance
- iv. 4 2324-0012-T 27127 - Community Schools Implementation Grant Transfer to function 2XXX

**F. GOVERNING BOARD TRAINING REPORT by Kelly Callahan**

- a. We are currently at 3 hours of training
- b. Kelly sends monthly updates to the Board President and Head Administrators about the topics, and clarity of how training was applied/validated.

**G. INSTRUCTIONAL and OPERATIONS by RioGafa Directors**

- a. DATA Reporting
  - i. Oct data showed overall growth
    1. 6th grade proficiency rate dropped
      - a. Adding reading buddies and new interventions
    2. Continuing to work on all grades' interventions based on IStation scores
    3. Looking to hire an intervention teacher
    4. Using Lexia as a reading intervention, beginning IXL for math
- b. Staffing -
  - i. Lost a teacher
  - ii. Gained an EA
  - iii. Currently interviewing for teacher replacements
- c. Schedule/Events
  - i. WINTER WONDERLAND - Dec 8, 2023, 5:30-7:30PM
    1. Asking Board for dessert donations
    2. Will also be selling swag
    3. Student artwork will be displayed and families can tour the school
    4. Senators/Education Leaders will be invited
  - ii. Family Literacy Academy- great turnout (Oct 26, 2023), 30 families attended
  - iii. Additional Literacy Academy night this semester and two scheduled for next semester
- d. Professional Development/Training -
  - i. Attended Charter School Growth Fund Conference
  - ii. 1 meeting/week for elementary, 1 meeting/week for middle school
- e. Students -
  - i. 140 students currently enrolled
  - ii. 80% attendance rate for October (up 2%)
  - iii. Mission Specific Goals- making good progress, arts integrated goal is time consuming to score

**H. GOVERNANCE**

- a. **\*Motion to \*APPROVE Final Version of the Bylaws**
  - i. Motion by Dr. Jenn Peña, seconded by Amer Child
  - ii. Review of bylaw adjustments
  - iii. Unanimously approved
- b. **\*Motion to \*APPROVE Directors' Stipends**
  - i. Motion by Dr. Susan McConnell, seconded by Dr. Jenn Peña
  - ii. Stipend for Community Schools, \$2000 each for Jordan and Michele
  - iii. Stipend for Family Literacy Academy Events, \$500 each for Jordan and Michele
  - iv. Unanimously approved
- c. **Report Out Facilities Committee- Dr. McConnell requested J. Franco Report Out**
  - i. Looking primarily at land options
  - ii. Michele and Jordan are looking at a few options
  - iii. Michele and Jordan will be touring NM School for the Arts, already met with them and architect
  - iv. There is still one building on the table, but more likely to go with the land option
  - v. Will be getting portables soon as well
- d. **Finance Committee Report Out on Audit Exit Meeting**
  - i. Cannot discuss in public until March, but can call a closed session (at a later meeting- Kelly will provide guidance)
- e. **Documents Notice by President**
  - i. Governing Board Member Training - will be available in the binder

## **I. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

- a. Michele will be presenting at the PCSNM Conference Nov 30/Dec 1!!

## **J. GOVERNING BOARD COMMENTS**

**Governing Board**

- a. NEXT Scheduled Meeting December 19, 2023
- b. Need to vote on Treasurer for next meeting
- c. **ADJOURNMENT at 7:50PM by Kathy McClendon**

**Happy Holiday! Safe Travels!**

**Don't Burn the Turkey! Don't watch too much football! And don't forget the cranberries!**

*Compiled and submitted by Dr. Jenn Peña*

*Approved December 19 2023*